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THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH 2016

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'A good friend to everyone'

GEM MOURNS FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BRIAN DOEL, a newspaperman known throughout the newspaper industry, and particularly in the West Country and south Wales, died suddenly last weekend on August 13.

He was with the Tindle Newspaper Group for many years as its Chief Executive.

In that capacity, he was responsible for 200 local newspapers (including The Glamorgan GEM) and three radio stations.

Although he retired from TNL in 2014, he certainly did not retire from the newspaper life he loved, and he also remained as chairman of the radio group owned by TNG.

As the owner of 51 per cent of the Sunday Independent in Cornwall, he steered that newspaper successfully through a major battle with another paper and received the congratulations of many in the industry. He was well liked by all who knew him.

His sudden death has upset everyone who knew him. He leaves a widow, Sam, and a daughter, Alexandra.

Sir Ray Tindle, Chairman of the Tindle Newspaper Group, said: "Brian had been a superb CEO, a brilliant editor and a friend to everyone.

"He was the man who took on the onerous task of running our group of almost 200 papers and radio stations when I first went down with cancer.

"He took the group, including radio, to new heights. I am shocked and greatly saddened by the loss of Brian".

GEM Editor Don John writes: Everyone here was stunned to hear the tragic news of Brian's death, for he was a man held in particularly high esteem by our staff here in the Vale.

He made no secret of his special affection for this newspaper – which he had played such a prominent role in nurturing – and in return, was highly respected by our staff, especially those who were proud to have known and worked alongside him for over two decades.

In past years, he had been a regular presence at our head offices in Cowbridge, as part of his wider responsibilities, where his legendary professionalism and warm, human qualities were very much admired.

The Glamorgan GEM has lost a good friend and we join in extending our deepest sympathy to his grieving family.

ABOVE: The late Brian Doel, whose sudden death has stunned the newspaper industry.

'PAINT THE TOWN RED'

(and help support the Poppy Appeal)

THE organisers of Cowbridge's Poppy Appeal are planning to build on the success of last year's campaign by 'painting the Town red' this year.

Last year's campaign, where commemorative poppies were attached to lamp posts throughout the town – each remembering a Cowbridge soldier killed in action – attracted great praise from neighbouring towns.

It also, more importantly, inspired a generous response from the public, and David Howell, the honorary Poppy Appeal organiser for Cowbridge, confirmed that it had raised more than £17,000.

He told The GEM that the appeal plans to repeat the popular aspects of last year's campaign, and also hopes to persuade as many local shops as possible to embrace the 'Paint the Town Red' theme.

He said: "Last year, we were helped by the Cutting Edge textile group, who displayed their evocative quilted handiwork on a World War One theme in a number of shops.

"Also, a few retailers produced Poppy Appeal-related window displays – the outstanding one was at Ty Hafan's shop.

"The appeal will run from October 29 to Remembrance Sunday, November 13, and we are hoping that more people will join in and generate the atmosphere of Remembrance that we are trying to create."

Mr Howell added that The GEM newspaper would be supporting the Poppy Appeal this year, as it did last year.

Mr Howell can be contacted on 01446 774306.

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Congratulations all round for a superb Vale Show!

AS president of the Vale Show for 2016, I wanted to thank everyone who attended Wales' premier one-day show at Fonmon Castle on August 10.

The weather was kind to us and the show once again demonstrated the very best of country life. As a proud Vale farmer, it was a true privilege and honour to be president and the day did not disappoint – I hope you also had a thoroughly enjoyable time on the showground.

As ever, there are always too many individuals to thank, but the organisers put on a sterling show and my heartfelt gratitude goes to the team so ably led by secretary Sarah Fenner, director John Hanks and chairman Liz Synan. It was a pleasure to see so many old and new faces and the buy-in from visitors, businesses, exhibitors and the local community was great to see. Agriculture and farming play such a hugely important role in our community and this was certainly epitomised by the stands on display.

Well done to the winners on the day, all of whom showcased the very best of the rural Vale and beyond. But as I touched upon in my welcome message in this same paper only a couple of weeks ago, all of this would not be possible without the support of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, South Wales Police, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, the Army and RAF cadets, the YFC, St John Ambulance, and other regulatory bodies that allow the show to proceed safely and efficiently.

And it's only right my final word of thanks is reserved for The GEM for the role it plays in promoting the event to so many across the county. Thank you.

Bring on 2017 and yet another excellent Vale of Glamorgan Show!

Andrew RT Davies AM
President, Vale of Glamorgan Show.

Prompt action to restore the view!

THROUGH the pages of The GEM newspaper, I would like to thank Natural Resources Wales for its prompt action to clear the banks of the river Thaw in Cowbridge, from the town car park to Millfield Drive.

The weeds and undergrowth had grown six foot high and completely obliterated the view of the river.

Within a week of me advising them of the situation, the banks were completely cleared – so now the river can be seen in all its glory once again.

Mrs A Burges, Cowbridge.

Waste confusion

WHAT a shambles it has been – the recent change of waste collection days by the Labour-led Vale of Glamorgan Council.

It has been totally confusing for residents – many of whom have not had a collection for around three weeks. The letter that was sent out was unclear; there was a lot of conflicting information and some, sadly, didn't even receive letters!

As some teachers would say – "must do better!"

Coun Richard Bertin, Independent, Court Ward.

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'Why my heart sinks at news of Team GB's Olympic cycling haul'

I WONDER if there are other readers like me whose heart sinks every time it's announced that Team GB has picked up yet another medal for cycling?

It's not that I'm being unpatriotic, you understand. It's just that after 2012 and subsequent successes in other bicycle-related events, the number of youths and middle-aged men with too much time on their hands (and a few women too, of course) that squeeze themselves into hideous multi-coloured Lycra, straddle a bike, and head out onto the roads around the Vale has reached epidemic proportions.

There are swarms of them. And it's now got to the point where their numbers seem to increase exponentially every time a professional British rider picks up yet another gong!

The fact that people are being inspired to take up sport is admirable. And if the obscene and eye-watering £30 million dished out to Team GB's cyclists every four years indirectly gets more people exercising, and might consequently save the NHS at least four times that amount in treatment for obesity and heart-related conditions in the same period, then (just maybe) it's money well spent.

But I suspect that the cost of treating a corresponding rate of cycling-related injuries will ensure that's absolutely not the case.

However, my main issue with this cycling obsession is that it's the only sport people are allowed to play on the public highways – anywhere and any time they please. Our roads are being turned into one giant playground for a minority, who think it's their divine right to cause congestion and inconvenience to anyone not on two wheels.

If a group of friends decided to hold a spontaneous game of volleyball on the central reservation of the Cowbridge bypass, the boys in blue would soon be on the scene to break things up.

But if 15 or 20 cyclists decide to have a mass outing on a Saturday morning riding two or three (or more) abreast, with a stream of frustrated motorists behind them, then apparently that's perfectly okay.

If the Assembly Government is getting devolved powers to set national speed limits, then perhaps they might consider flexing a bit of muscle in other areas of road traffic management. And I have a few suggestions for them to consider:

• An outright ban on recreational cycling on all public highways by groups comprising more than three riders to a group. These riders must ride in single file at all times.

• The compulsory registration of all bicycles, and cyclists aged 13 and over, with the requirement to display a registration number on every bicycle (much like the old car tax disc) and to carry a related form of ID at all time.

This might help to deter cyclists from openly violating so many traffic regulations and help them to acknowledge red lights.

Presently they protect their anonymity by hiding behind giant sunglasses/goggles in all weathers, thus making them feel invincible and above the law.

• A mandatory requirement to ride only on cycle lanes or dedicated cycle paths whenever and wherever such are provided, with on-the-spot fines for any rider not doing so. Local councils seem hell-bent on building cycle paths that always end up remarkably devoid of cyclists. Heavy fines might incentivise cyclists to use the facilities they are given and help offset some of the build costs.

It would also offer a degree of satisfaction to non-cyclists who pay for these white elephant cycle facilities out of their council tax.

So, I hear you ask, where do cycling clubs go to have their fun? Well, there's a velodrome in Newport. They could probably find several sports stadiums and running tracks to ride around too.

Or how about a disused World War Two airfield? Even after 70 years, the runway surface would probably be in better condition than most of the roads in the Vale!

Ian Walton, Rhoose.

Sands of time

THERE has been a noticeable change in sand levels at Barry Island over the last few years.

My late husband, who grew up on the Island, always remarked how quickly the sand was disappearing and blamed it on the constant dredging in the Channel seven days a week right through the year.

If something is not done soon, our wonderful asset of Whitmore Bay will be nothing but shingle and rock in the future. WHAT A SHAME!

Sue Day, Barry.

Give and take

AFTER reading Robin Jones' letter ('Cyclists', GEM): what a wise man he is.

He has said we all should work together to keep ourselves safe on our roads; it's all about give and take.

R Thomas, (taxi driver, Bridgend).

Shifting sands, *it's not unusual!*

WITH reference to sand movements at Whitmore Bay, this is neither an unusual site, nor an unusual sight!

According to research done a few of years ago by the Marine Conservation Society, severe beach erosion is happening right down the west coast of Britain, from Scotland to Cornwall; and data from weather buoys put in place in the 40s/50s by I believe the MoD shows that average wave heights in the North Atlantic increased by 25 per cent over the last 50 years.

This is a combination of increasing sea levels and greater storm activity as a result of global warming, and I'm afraid there's nothing we can do about it, it's just going to get worse.

If dredging is adding to the problem, the effect is minor compared to other forces.

Davy Cartwright, Llantwit Major.

Remembering the VC hero

I CAME across the article in The GEM online, where Mr Godfrey Knight intended to visit the grave of a family member who had won the VC.

I enclose pictures of the headstone and a plaque inside the abbey, which I commissioned for the memorial service for McPherson VC.

At the time, I appealed nationally via newspapers and radio for any living relatives to attend the dedication service, and one lady, a great-great-great-granddaughter – a Mrs Lillian Edge – was guest of honour.

It was a day to remember, with the regimental pipe band and a colour party from his regiment leading the celebrations, followed by a meal and speeches from many dignitaries.

Mr and Mrs Edge subsequently gave a wooden seat in front of the town square in honour of the village's recognition of McPherson's valour.

Alan Johnson.

'Love Wales, but hate the litter'

HOW wonderful to see in your recent GEM, the item on the Vale of Glamorgan 'litter champions'.

We haven't always lived here. We like Wales very much, love the Welsh people – but oh, that litter!

Pity there was no-one from Llantwit Major. We need a major campaign.

Vivien Pernas, Llantwit Major.

'Come and join our drama group'

DINAS POWYS Players Amateur Dramatics Group have been putting on plays for the last 45 years in the parish hall.

Our performances are very popular and we have a large following who come to see the plays we perform twice a year.

Unfortunately, our members are dwindling in number and we are very keen for new people to join our group.

If you are over 18 and want to start a new hobby or you have always fancied going on stage, we would love to meet you. Please come and meet us at our special joiners' evening on Wednesday, August 24.

Just turn up at 8.15pm at our rehearsal room in the Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys and you will be very welcome. The Lee Hall is next to the parish hall.

If you have any questions please call Andrew Gibbons on 07887 624618, or Jane Rapier on 07931 212642.

Philip Rapier.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL AUGUST 25)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
18 Thur	07.11	9.6	19.31	9.9
19 Fri	07.54	10.1	20.12	10.3
20 Sat	08.33	10.2	20.52	10.4
21 Sun	09.14	10.3	21.34	10.3
22 Mon	09.55	10.1	22.17	10.0
23 Tues	10.37	9.8	23.02	9.6
24 Wed	11.24	9.3	23.51	9.2
25 Thur			12.16	8.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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'A TRUE FRIEND OF COWBRIDGE'

Ronald Speed, 1940 – 2016

Gathering in Old Hall Gardens to remember Ronald Speed.

COWBRIDGE lost a true friend and character when Ronald Speed (*right*) recently passed away at the age of 76.

Ron lived alone in Hopyard Meadow, but he made many friends in the 28 years he lived in Cowbridge.

He was born in Skipsea, a small village on the North Yorkshire coast. Ron was a modest man with a natural affinity for languages and was able to speak several.

It was also said that he would often relax by reading a Russian novel written in its native language. He spent some time in Holland as a translator before moving to Cowbridge.

He was also a photographer and submitted over 60 photos of the Cowbridge area to Geograph® Britain and Ireland. Geograph® is an Ordnance Survey-sponsored project that aims to collect geographically representative photographs and information for every square kilometre of Great Britain and Ireland.

Every day without fail Ron would walk around his adopted town, calling in at the library for a chat with Melanie, Tina and other librarians.

He would then stop off at the various charity shops, in particular the Red Cross and Emmaus, where he would pass the time of day talking to the volunteers.

A visit to the book shops, the Gallery and a stop off for a coffee with his friend Annette was also part of his routine.

This is not to mention the number of times he spent chatting to people in the street every day.

His non-appearance for his regular daily walk resulted in concerned neighbours finding that Ron had passed away.

The loss to so many friends was such that the Hopyard Meadow Tenants' Association decided to create a memorial to Ron. They were joined by the Westgate Residents' Association, with the secretary, Margaret Buchalikt, organising a collection.

With help from Emmaus and the library they collected over £400, almost four times more than expected.

It was suggested creating something in the Old Hall Gardens, which was part of Ron's walk, in his memory. When approached, Linda Osborn, a trustee of the Cowbridge Charter Trust, which looks after the gardens, proposed four large planters along the front of the Old Hall façade.

On August 11 many of his friends and neighbours gathered in the gardens to drink to his memory and place a small plaque on the planters.

Librarian Tina Scott read out a poem from Robert Burns and Margaret Buchalikt read out a message from Ron's sister, Freda, who still lives in Yorkshire, and also gave a moving tribute to a good neighbour and a true friend of Cowbridge.

Ronald Speed 1940 – 2016.

HARRY HAILES

Topstak takes best stand award at the Vale Show

WOOD-burning stove specialist Topstak won the 'Best Commercial Trade Stand' award at the Vale Show.

A rosette and the Gail Martin Perpetual Challenge Trophy were presented to the Topstak sales director, Richard Finucane, who said: "Receiving this award means a lot to us in recognising the effort put in by the Topstak team. We always aim to display the best of our wide range of stoves and products for enjoying outdoor living."

A working Clearview stove was blazing away on an exhibition trailer that also showed stoves from other major brands including Chesneys and Charnwood.

The Big Green Egg barbeques were on display and have a great reputation for very versatile cooking of deliciously moist food. Topstak usually have an 'Egg' cooking away every Saturday at their Cowbridge showroom.

The eye-catching wood fired hot tubs were on show, together with a new range of fire pits.

Topstak also sell kitchens, stone and wooden flooring, Everhot and Esse range cookers. Their Cowbridge showroom is on the Vale Business Park, Llandow and more details can be found on their website *www.topstak.co.uk*

Treoes sheep are gathering show prizes

Philip David at the Royal Welsh with Manor Croft Ultima.

Taran Clarke won the pet lamb category at Glynogwr.

THE Treoes flock of Poll Dorset sheep was established in 2014 and named after the village where the sheep are kept.

Owned by Philip David and Rhiannon Richards, the flock has enjoyed a successful 2016 show season, including taking first prize at the Royal Welsh Show with the aged ewe *Manor Croft Ultima* and a second place with the homebred ewe lamb *Treoes Xena*.

On August 6 at the annual Glynogwr and District Show, the Lowland ram class was won by Philip David showing *Huish Umar*, *Manor Croft Ultima* took first prize in the Best Lowland Ewe class and the Shearling ewe *Huish W8410* also won her class.

Treoes Xena gained second place in the ewe lamb class and *Treoes Xerxes* was third in the ram lamb class.

The flock also won the best group of four and the Shearling Ewe *Huish W8410* went on to take the Lowland Championship and finally the Supreme of Show.

In addition, and not wanting to be outdone by their uncle, the Pet Lamb class was won by Taran Clarke, aged eight, with the ewe lamb *Treoes Xeraphina* while Lauren David won the Best Child Handler class with *Manor Croft Ultima*.

Market project was a Vale showstopper!

THE Vale Market Community Enterprise (VMCE) project to develop the livestock market site in Cowbridge had a busy day at the Vale Show on Wednesday, when supporters past and new dropped in for a chat and to update themselves on the progress of the plan.

Under dry skies with moments of beautiful sunshine show attendance was high and the atmosphere was fun filled. The VMCE, thanks once again to the generosity of the FUW, were afforded a prime spot next to the main arena in order to promote awareness of the project as a whole and in particular, the community building 'The Exchange'.

Mandy Davies, VMCE chair said: "We continue to make sound headway towards the realisation of this fantastic vision for Cowbridge and the Vale. The council, our political leaders and, most importantly, our community, continue to give us great support and encouragement, for which we are hugely grateful.

"The council go out to tender imminently for the residential element of the project and, hopefully, we will have a number of bids from potential developers by November.

"Funding applications are being processed and the bond scheme is being finalised in order that it will be 'ready to go' once the development starts. If anyone would like details of the bond investment, please let us know and we will email you the information and application.

"The VMCE volunteer committee have given many hours and displayed great enthusiasm, not to mention supplying a wide range of high-level skills without which this project would not be possible. Our heartfelt thanks go to them all."

If you have expertise that you are able to offer, particularly in the area of funding and law, please contact the VMCE.

Anyone wishing to be kept up-to-date via our e-newsletters, please send your details: name, email, house address and phone number to mandydavies99@gmail.com.

Two arrested after match day locker-room theft

FOOTBALL teams often complain of being 'robbed', but this proved all too literal at a home match played between Llantwit Major AFC and Cwm Welfare FC on Saturday, August 13.

At half-time, players in the Welsh League Division 3 match – held at the Windmill ground pitch on Frampton Lane just outside the town – returned to the dressing room to find lockers broken open and ransacked.

Personal possessions were missing – and a car had been stolen.

A spokesman for South Wales Police told The GEM that officers received a telephone call just after 3.15pm on Saturday.

He added: "It appears to have happened while the players' and spectators' attention was, quite naturally, focused on the pitch.

"The lockers were opened and the players' belongings were rifled through. Mobile phones and other items were taken, including car keys. A white Audi, belonging to one of the players, was taken.

"Two males aged 31 and 33 and both from the Swansea area have been arrested in connection with this incident."

Two men have now been released on bail pending further investigations.

He said that police are appealing for witnesses or others in the vicinity of the playing fields last Saturday afternoon to contact the force, especially if they saw any suspicious activity in the area.

Contact South Wales Police on 101 with any information relating to this incident, quoting incident number 07726.

• *Cwm Welfare won the match 5-0.*

Probus Club recalls the great disaster of 1831

THE meeting for Llantwit Major Probus Club was held on Tuesday, August 9, in Illtyd 216.

Members were welcomed by the president John Clarke who gave an update on the progress being made with the hearing and visual aids to enhance the presentations by our speakers.

The loop system had been fitted, and at an earlier committee meeting the go-ahead had been given to purchase a 40-inch television screen to improve the visual presentations. This would be made available for use by Ladies' Probus as well.

The choice for the annual lunch on October 28 should be available for the September meeting.

Roger Gullet advised of a friendly boules match being organised with Llanmaes on Friday, August 19 and asked for members wishing to play to give him their names. The game would start at 6pm with after-match refreshments.

This month's speaker was our vice president Colin Hawkins. His talk, entitled '*The Frolic*' was about the paddle steamer which was operated by the Bristol Steam Packet Company and plied its trade between Bristol and Haverfordwest, a 60-mile journey which took 10 hours.

Launched in November 1830, she made her last and fateful sailing on March 15, 1831. With rough weather from the outset, she sheltered in Dale Bay and then set anchor off Tenby. The captain took the decision to carry on the voyage and the vessel went considerably off course, and foundered on Nash Sands with the loss of all 78 passengers and crew.

The inquiry into the disaster led to two lighthouses being built within a year, which serve as a lasting legacy and memorial of the disaster.

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Father salutes Coastguard heroes

A Vale father has told the GEM the dramatic story of how his son was rescued off the Heritage Coast on Wednesday, August 3, and emphasised how much we all owe to the sterling work of local coastguards.

Denis G Campbell recounted the heart-stopping moment he found out that his son was safe after a life-threatening incident involving four teenagers near Llantwit Major beach.

Jamie Jenkins, the station officer, with Chris.

A happy, and thankful, reunion!

Denis said: "When the call begins – *'this is Kristen from Heath Hospital A&E, we have your son, he's okay'* – nothing stops your heart from sinking into the floor.

"When you learn your son and three others were swept out to sea, you wonder what these 16-year-old boys were doing in two-metre high seas. Then you sheepishly remember your own teenage escapades!"

But as more information became available Mr Campbell's relief turned to pride.

He explained: "When you learn over the next few hours that they had had the judgement to not go in, and were in fact swept away trying to rescue a mate who was in trouble by tying clothing together as a rope, you are filled with pride at their courage.

"And when it hits you that this week, three other families in Wales were not as fortunate, you appreciate the forgotten soldiers of the Llantwit Major Coastguards.

"Jamie 'Goose' Jenkins, station officer, reached out on Facebook and asked if he could use photos of my son in A&E with oxygen and a hypothermia kit for their debriefing meeting.

"That was when we wanted to meet this team. And every family joined in. The meeting happened Monday.

"As Jamie Jenkins said: 'Once the ambulance doors shut or the helicopter leaves the area, that is often the last we ever know or see of the people we rescue'.

"That changed when Harry Fairclough and his dad Sid, Jordan Williams and mum Carys, Ryan Lee Taylor's mum Jan Brocklehurst and Chris Groot Wassink, my son, and I walked into the Llantwit Major Fire and Coastguards Station."

Senior Coastal Operations Officer Lee Haigh told the group: "Our men train here every Monday night from 7pm to 9pm on rope, shore and 'close in' water rescues along our cliffs and shores.

"Most of our men grew up in this area, so they know exactly where people are, or if in the sea, where the currents will take them."

After 20 minutes in the water, Harry and Jordan managed to get out, but Chris and Ryan were drifting away, fighting to stay afloat in their wetsuits. Harry, Jordan and others were on shore frantically calling 999.

The mobile land crew were despatched immediately and 11 men showed up with equipment on Llantwit Major Beach.

The families found out that 999 calls are fed to the centre where they provide feedback so air, land and sea teams have the same and most up-to-date information in a chaotic situation.

Based on tides, currents and time, the watch commander decides, usually within seconds, whether to dispatch lifeboats, a helicopter. or both

When Jamie Jenkins and his crew arrived on scene, they needed to assess where and how many people were still in the water. The chopper was a two-minute flight away at MoD St Athan and the lifeboat was already on a training exercise nearby.

Jamie said: "As we arrived on scene, we confirmed two boys had made it out of the water and could see the helicopter had spotted the other boys 200 yards offshore.

"It circled and was hoisting Chris out with Ryan to follow. It was over, thankfully, very quickly.

"Everyone was out 20 minutes after we got the call."

The heli raced on to the Heath Hospital in Cardiff. Harry and Jordan were transported by ambulance to Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

Three were quickly released, with Chris held overnight to watch for infection from seawater in his lungs. All have since fully recovered from the ordeal.

Denis added: "So when those black coastguard vehicles race up and down the coast, get out of their way, send a good thought to these brave men and whomever they may be saving next."

Cowbridge retains its top spot in the Welsh property league table

FIGURES released by a property website have put Cowbridge at the top of the Welsh property price league, with Dinas Powys and Penarth also in the top six.

The average price of a home in Cowbridge, according to Zoopla's Z Index, is now £429,471, a full £89,000 more than the second-placed town, Usk, in Monmouthshire.

Dinas Powys is fourth in the table, with an average property price of £303,442, while Penarth is in sixth place, with £301,609.

The same company produces a top ten of streets, and Primrose Hill in Cowbridge comes in at number three, with an average price, says Zoopla, of over one million pounds.

As with so many lists, it all depends on how the list is compiled. Earlier this year, Sanderling Way in Porthcawl was proclaimed 'the most expensive street in Wales' – but this was based on actual house sales recorded at the Land Registry.

Sanderling Way does not make the Zoopla list, and Primrose Hill did not make the Land Registry list.

At the time, it was argued that Sanderling Way had hit the top spot because one particular house had sold for around £2 million, pushing the average up.

Primrose Hill's absence from the same list, may well have been because no houses were sold during the period measured by the Land Registry.

Liverpool dream comes true for St Athan girl

A St Athan schoolgirl recently had the thrill of walking out in front of 90,000 spectators at Wembley Stadium when Liverpool played Barcelona in a pre-season game.

Josie Gronow goes to St Athan Primary School, is a madly keen football fan and plays for Llantwit Major under-10s.

It was Josie's big prize after she was entered into a competition run by New Balance, the sports kit manufacturer, for the chance to be a mascot at the game.

Josie Gronow at Wembley Stadium.

The prize included a brand new kit and two match tickets as well.

Josie and Craig Walters, who is Josie's mum's partner, travelled up on the Saturday morning and met the Liverpool FC club representatives at Hilton Wembley to receive her prize and headed to Wembley Stadium.

Craig said: "She the took her place in the tunnel alongside Emre Can and walked out onto the pitch in front of close to 90,000 spectators, which was later revealed as the second-largest ever attendance at the stadium."

As the prize was a Liverpool game, it was just as well that Josie is a fan, and her favourite current player is Daniel Sturridge.

However, as is probably compulsory for any Liverpool fan, she also loves Steven Gerrard.

Craig concluded: "It was a brilliant day all round."

Local author Dewi has a place in national library

A LLANTWIT MAJOR author, Dewi Heald, has been recognised by the National Library of Wales as a book of his short stories has been added to the library catalogue.

Author Dewi Heald.

The Aberystwyth-based institution, which has been collecting works of Welsh literature and history since it was established in 1907, now stocks a copy of *Cheese Market of the Future*, published earlier this year.

Dewi explained: "*Cheese Market of the Future* is a collection of stories set in and about Wales and so it is a real honour to be recognised by the National Library in this way.

"For an author, there is no greater thought than that you have made a contribution to the catalogue of Wales's most important literary institution."

He moved to Llantwit Major several years ago, having lived and worked in Cardiff. He has also written a book of political essays, *The Seven Pillows of Wisdom*, partly based on knowledge he accumulated while studying international politics at the University of Aberystwyth. Both books are available through amazon.co.uk

Llantwit Major itself appears in the short stories. Dewi said: "I was watching the film *I am Legend* with a friend and I started to wonder why the last survivor of the apocalypse is always living in New York or Los Angeles, so I wrote a version where the last survivors on earth live in Llantwit Major.

"The story, 'Me, I am Like Legend, I am' was written the next day and caught the notice of Planet Magazine. "

"It is quite cheeky. When the transport system collapses across the UK, there is chaos in London but in Llantwit Major people just go and queue for a replacement bus service. I suppose that I was saying that we are used to being resilient here!"

The Llantwit-based author is now working on a new project, a comic novel based around a referendum on Welsh independence.

He admits that there may be more references to Llantwit Major in that, too.

Cowbridge in Bloom needs funding... AND VOLUNTEERS

FOR everyone involved with the floral displays in the main street in Cowbridge and along the river bank, it was gratifying to read Vivien and Christopher Pollard's letter in last week's GEM.

This year, the small committee decided to try to improve the presentation and with advice from our supplier we have to say that we are very pleased with the results.

To see the public appreciation in print makes the effort very worthwhile. We do rely upon a team of about 20 volunteers, including a number of Rotarians, to water the baskets and they will be pleased to read that their efforts have not gone unnoticed.

While the watering can be hard work, all welcome the opportunity to support the community and to make Cowbridge that little bit special during the summer months.

We were formed in 1991 as a voluntary group, not connected to the local authority or the local traders, solely to improve the visual attraction to Cowbridge. Our fortunes have fluctuated somewhat at the behest of the generosity of the traders (or not) and the donations received from the Vale Council and Cowbridge Town Council.

The Town Council's support is unstinting, but so far this year, we have heard nothing from the Vale, whereas previously we had received £800 for the last three years. As you can appreciate our funding is precarious at best. Occasionally, we have received private donations.

We are always looking for more support, particularly with the watering. To find out more about us, or to make a donation, please contact Don Bell (treasurer), Ty Canol, Maendy, Cowbridge. CF71 7TG. Donations may also be left at the Town Hall, suitably marked.

Fundraising day for Ellie, 3

FAMILY and friends of young Ellie Collier will join her parents for a fun fundraising day in Cowbridge on Sunday, August 21.

Ellie, 3, has cerebral palsy, and some £65,000 needs to be raised for life-changing surgery in the USA.

The event at Cowbridge Rugby Club is from 12 noon to 4pm. A bouncy castle, Peppa Pig and a barbecue with locally-sourced meat will be just some of the attractions.

Summer garden party raises funds for local church

ST NICHOLAS church held a summer garden party at the home of Wendy Lowe on July 30 to raise funds for the church, which will go towards essential repair works.

"Villagers and visitors enjoyed an afternoon of snail racing, book and cake stalls accompanied with tea, strawberry cream scones and Pimms," reported Kevin Fuller, the church treasurer.

Plaid Cymru will oppose scheme for Mount Sorrell

PLAID Cymru councillors have objected to new plans to transform the former Mount Sorrel hotel into accommodation for 45 young people aged 18 to 35.

The proposals were discussed at Barry Town Council last week, where councillors made a strong objection.

Previous plans for the site had involved demolishing the current hotel building and rebuilding 26 flats on the location, but the revised plans mean retaining the old building with some internal changes.

Plaid Cymru's Coun Shirley Hodges said: "Social housing is very important and we need it in Barry, but it is not appropriate to house so many single people in a constrained location.

"Essentially this plan is for 45 people living in hotel rooms with a small kitchen and living room, and that is not a good living environment.

"The plans also suggest limited car parking space compared to the Vale's supplementary planning guidance for new developments."

Plaid's Coun Ian Johnson added: "The UK Government has made changes to housing benefit so that people under the age of 35 can only have a room in a house rather than a flat of their own.

"As somebody only slightly older than that age group, this is unfair and deliberately penalises people because of their circumstances in being out of work, on low pay or following a relationship break-up.

"However, as we have a responsibility to meet that need, the council should source accommodation that best fits younger people and the local community, and this plan does not do that.

"The original proposals to demolish the hotel and build flats was agreed because we recognised that the hotel was not viable, but we are not willing to accept a cut-price plan that will make money for the owners without meeting the needs of the proposed client group.

"This proposal is inadequate and inappropriate for the site," he insisted.

There's time to stand and stare at Dyffryn!

SOUTHERNDOWN WI did not hold a formal meeting during August but instead, our president Michele organised a visit to Dyffryn Gardens.

A guided tour was planned and, as it was a typical August day, we arrived wearing fleeces and carrying waterproofs!

Our guides led us through the fernery and the rockery, then along the southern side of the house towards the formal gardens, pointing out plants and trees of interest and explaining some of the history of the property.

We were given time to stand and stare and ask questions, before being shown the walled garden – where we were all surprised to find two pigs happily dozing in the mud – before commenting on how delightfully warm it was in the glass house!

At the end of our tour, we had time to wander around the house, which has reopened as a work in progress after almost two decades. There were volunteers on hand to tell us the history of the house and some of its residents, and there was an opportunity for people who remember the house as a conference centre to record their memories.

The next meeting of the WI will be held on Thursday, September 8 at 7.15pm in the church hall on Southerndown Road, St Brides Major. We have a full programme planned for the rest of the year, so why not come along and meet us? ***PM***

TWO 'BRAVING THE SHAVE' AT ST ATHAN!

TWO local women who work in St Athan will be losing their hair this Sunday – as part of the Macmillan 'Brave the Shave' campaign.

Stephanie Pickett and Barbel Merilaht, who both work in St Athan's Londis store, will be outside the shop on Sunday, August 21, at 1.30pm, when their locks will be lopped off!

Donations to Stephanie's and Barbel's fundraising efforts can be made at the Londis store, St Athan, and also online at ***https://bravetheshave.org.uk/shavers/stephanie-pickett/***

Barbel Merilaht (left) and Stephanie Pickett will be losing their hair on Sunday, August 21.

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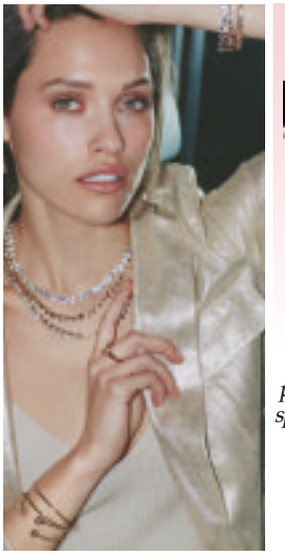

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Children enjoying the Swim Safe sessions on Whitmore Bay. Photos by Julian Morgan.

Children flock to Island to learn how to 'Swim Safe'

MORE than 300 children have flocked to Barry Island for 'Swim Safe', a free programme of outdoor swimming and water safety sessions for children aged between 7-14.

New to Barry this year, the initiative saw more than 100 children don wetsuits and swimming hats and get into the sea to learn vital sea safety techniques for two days in July.

And 200 more descended on Whitmore Bay at the weekend.

Sessions, delivered in partnership between Swim Wales, the ASA (Amateur Swimming Association) and the RNLI charity (Royal National Lifeboat Institution), include a land-based safety lesson with RNLI lifeguards and in-water tuition with ASA qualified swimming teachers.

One of the swimming teachers is Zoe Holloway, (21), of Newport, who was inspired to help teach the Swim Safe sessions by the story of her grandmother Valerie Lynn, who nearly drowned in the River Thames as an eight-year-old child. Non-swimmer Valerie, who is now 78, has been scared of open water for 70 years after the incident, which saw her get into difficulty in the London River before being pulled out of the water by a teenager.

Zoe, who works as a club swimming teacher around her studies at Cardiff Metropolitan University, said: "There were no swimming lessons back then and my grandmother was very lucky not to have drowned. But that one incident has led to a lifetime of uncertainty around open water for her.

"That made me want to sign up as a Swim Safe teacher, because these sessions are teaching kids vital skills to give them the confidence to enjoy themselves safely."

It is the first year Swim Safe has been held in Barry and such was the demand for places extra sessions had to be laid on for all the parents keen to enrol their children. The programme has taught over 12,000 UK children.

Hanna Guise, of Swim Wales, said: "It's fantastic that we've had the high level of interest in Swim Safe in its first year here on Barry Island."

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Ogmore AM supports call for forces to be 'counted in' the census

AM for Ogmore, Huw Irranca-Davies, has declared his support for The Royal British Legion's 'Count Them In' campaign which calls for questions on the Armed Forces Community to be included in the next UK Census.

He said that it is estimated there are currently between 6.5 million and 6.7 million members of the Armed Forces community living in the UK, representing about a tenth of the population – little was known about the exact numbers, location and needs of this significant group.

"Including new questions on the next census would provide public bodies, and charities with information to ensure they are able to deliver the best services they can for our Armed Forces Community," said the AM.

He met representatives of Legion and RAF veteran Andy Davies to discuss the campaign at the Assembly.

"Adding questions to the UK Census about the Armed Forces Community will help raise awareness of this much valued group. It is essential that the members are aware of the full care and support packages available and that the relevant authorities are able to target these packages directly to them.

"It will also go some way to show appreciation of our Armed Forces, to whom we owe so much," he commented.

Chris Simpkins, Director-General of The Royal British Legion, said: "As a nation, we promise to provide lifelong care and support for those who serve our country, and by adding questions to the 2021 UK Census we can help public bodies and charities to deliver the best services they can for our Armed Forces community where they are needed most."

People can show their support for the campaign by visiting the website, www.britishlegion.org.uk/census, or by posting on social media using the #CountThemIn hashtag.

Is the transformation of sports club in the interests of village?

SULLY Sports & Social Club and a major housing developer say they have received 800 letters backing a project which will transform the club's coastal location into a mix of housing and brand new sports facilities.

A map showing the proposed development at Sully. On the left, the social club, with playing fields to the right. The coast is shown at the bottom of the illustration.

They say the scheme has been backed by local sports, leisure and community groups, and will safeguard the future of the club.

The Vale Council is due to make its decision on the joint planning application, submitted by Sully Sports & Social Club together with the lead developer, St. Modwen, in the autumn.

Sully Sports Club chairman, Alwyn Davies, who has been associated with the club in various roles for 50 years, said the development would ensure the club's survival.

"We have a fantastic facility here which is very well supported, but we just can't financially afford to keep the club going in its current form, even with our high number of paying members. We do not want the local community to lose this club.

"The improvement plans currently on the table will not only invigorate the surrounding area but will ensure the club's survival for future generations to benefit and enjoy. We are greatly encouraged by the level of support in favour of our plans."

Gareth Scannell, the project director at St. Modwen, emphasised the company's experience in regeneration of communities.

"The club is well used by the local community and boasts over 2,000 active members – children and adults but some of the existing sports and social facilities are in urgent need of repair.

"St. Modwen has a 30-year track record in positive regeneration of local communities and we are already actively involved in over £2.75billion worth of long term regeneration investment elsewhere in south Wales.

"We believe that, in conjunction with Sully Sport & Social Club, our development plans provide a viable way to secure the club for future generations to enjoy."

The club and developer say there are a number of potential benefits if their vision for the playing fields is accepted: new grass and 3G all-weather football and rugby pitches; a training area; a new gym for club members and the general public; up to 18 new jobs in addition to the 14 roles currently occupied at the club; better private hire and conference facilities; and an income stream from the proposed new touring caravan site.

In terms of housing, it will mean 200 new homes adjacent to the club. The developer says they will be "sensitively designed in keeping with the local surroundings".

The mix of homes would include 40 per cent affordable housing for local people.

The club and developer say that the people who have written in support of the project have stressed the club's importance as a hub of the community and providing sports and leisure facilities that can be used by people of all ages.

Kevin Mahoney, who represents Sully on the Vale Council, responded to the claims, saying: "I don't think that it is any surprise that a property developer wishing to build over a village sports ground has claimed that their application has received popular support, when local experience and knowledge dictates a totally opposite response from the villages residents.

"One would wonder how many of the 800 letters of support actually come from people who live in Sully, and who would have to suffer the inevitable consequences of more and more housing with no improvements to allied infrastructure?

"I would suspect very few compared to the hundreds of letters of objection received by the Vale planning department from people who actually live here."

"In reality, I have yet to speak to anyone in Sully who isn't aghast at the thought of this land being concreted over, and yet another 200-plus houses being added to the recent approval of 350 homes just a couple of hundred yards away.

"Enough really is enough in Sully's case."

Hale and hearty at the Vale Show!

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

THEY came from near and far, on four legs, two legs and – in the case of a rescued Jack Russell terrier – on three legs to the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show, one of the highlights in the Vale calendar.

It did not disappoint the thousands of visitors but then, it never does.

Viewed as the biggest single-day agricultural show in Wales, it benefits, naturally, from the mercury being 'set fair'. The weather gods were indeed smiling with nary a cloud in the sky and but a feint zephyr of a breeze.

As a showcase of Vale rural life, it's an opportunity to see old friends and experience the quality of all things country, from sheep-shearing to dog showing, and from the best Welsh cakes to the finest home-made jam.

The Vale Show might be just once a year, but the memories last a full 12 months.

VALE FAMILY POOLS OLYMPIC TALENT!

THEY say that success runs in families, but in the case of Llantwit estate agent Robert Morgan and his nephew, David, the connection is more aquatic than track and field.

Bob, who runs the Brighter Moves agency with offices in the Vale, boasts an impressive roster of championship diving performances representing Team GB and Wales at four consecutive Summer Olympics, starting in 1984, and at five consecutive Commonwealth Games from 1982 through to 1998.

He won three medals – bronze, silver and gold – in the Commonwealth Games.

David (22), born in Llantwit, has just taken bronze in the men's 4×100-metre medley at the 2016 Summer Olympics.

However, before anyone starts a petition requesting that post-boxes in the town be repainted a fetching bronze, David and family moved to Australia some 14 years ago, and his success goes towards, alas, the Aussie medals tally, not Team GB's.

Yet David, at 22, is a virtual veteran compared to his mother, who competed in the 1976 Montréal Olympics aged 15 in the 100m backstroke.

"It's good to see that a Llantwit lad has done well," said Bob of his nephew's success.

"There must really be something in the genes!"

Porthcawl-born Paralympic gold-medallist Aled Siôn Davies flies to Rio later this month to compete in the shot put.

Listed Vale churches are granted £163,000 for vital roof repairs

TWO Vale churches – St Nicholas and St James, Wick – have won grants of £92,200 and £71,600 respectively, from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund.

St Nicholas Church also benefited from other fundraising and grants of £36,500, making a total of £128,700, to address urgent roofing and associated repair works.

Sarah Perons, care of churches advisor said: "We're delighted at the success of the parishes of St Nicholas and of St James, Wick in their applications to the Roof Repair Fund, and will be working closely with them in the next stages of the process, so that they can obtain appropriate permissions as quickly as possible.

"These types of grant applications require a lot of time and effort to put together, so our thanks to all those involved in the process – and commiserations to those who were not successful this time around."

St Nicholas Church is a grade II listed building, has pre-Norman origins and has been the centre of worship for the community for many hundreds of years. The church plays a very active part in the life of the community through weekly worship, services for special occasions, local school services, regular social events and a ministry to visitors and tourists visiting the village, which is near the National Trust's Dyffryn Gardens.

Sarah added: "The church needs urgent renovation, especially to its roof, with the last inspection in 2014 identifying the roof coverings as in 'poor condition' and the failure of which is causing damage internally.

"This money will ensure the roof covering is renewed and the church is watertight and safe for everybody to use. The completion of this project will represent a very significant achievement for the community in securing its future and realising long term plans for exploring alternative uses."

Canon Martyn Davies of the East Vale group of parishes added: "Everybody involved in this project is very excited about the news. The grant award would not have been possible without the hard work of the local community raising funds over recent years and the generosity of the 'Friends of St Nicholas Church'.

"The Parish Church Council would like to say a big thank you to everybody who has been involved and contributed so generously. This is a major step in engaging more with the local community – after all, it is their church and we want people to feel that it is their church."

David Walke, a member of the project team at St James Church, said: "We are delighted and relieved to have been awarded this grant, which means that we are now in a position to start dealing with some of the issues affecting the church. We care very much about this ancient building, which is grade ll* listed and needs to be looked after. This signals the beginning of work that needs to be done to keep the building useable both for the worshipping congregation and the wider community."

The cash is part of a wider funding package of £22.9million to 401 historic places of worship across the UK. The fund was launched by the Chancellor in his autumn statement in December 2014 and the funding package has now seen a total of 903 places of worship across the UK receive a share of £55million.

St James in Wick.

Merchant Navy plans tribute at Seafarers' Service in Barry

THE Merchant Navy Association (Wales) Barry branch has announced that a Seafarers' Service will be held on Friday, September 2, in the town.

The local tribute is open to all organisations, but it is especially hoped that family members of serving and former members of the Merchant Navy, Royal Navy and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary will also attend.

The service will be held at the Merchant Navy Monument, Barry at 11am. The provisional date for next year's service is on September 3, 2017.

In holding a Seafarers' Service, we acknowledge the vital role played by the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force in convoy duties, also all those who follow the calling of the sea, deep-sea fishermen, the RNLI and others.

The presence of branch standards will be greatly appreciated at the service. The order of precedence being: The Merchant Navy Associations, The Royal Navy, The Royal Air Force, The Royal British Legion and all other standards.

A branch wreath will be laid during the service at the Merchant Navy Monument. All other organisations are welcome to lay wreaths at this event.

We hope that you will continue to support and assist us in helping us to ensure that this is, once again, a successful event.

Merchant Navy week in Barry will include a static Merchant Navy display at the Central library, The red ensign of the Merchant Navy being flown on Merchant Navy day, a branch visit to Swansea for a Wales commemoration, a Merchant Navy presence at the Barry at War event, and a presentation on board the Waverley remembering our town's paddle steamer, the PS *Barry*.

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The Morriston Minors at the training event (missing from the picture is Kay Myatt).

Morriston Minors take to the road with a little help from 'Alfie'

HE'S led Wales to Grand Slam victory on the rugby pitch and now Bridgend's Gareth 'Alfie' Thomas is hoping inspire another group of sports enthusiasts to emulate his success.

His latest challenge sees him guiding 100 amateur runners – dubbed 'Alfie's Angels' – from the sofa to the finishing line of October's Cardiff Half Marathon and their progress will be followed by TV cameras for BBC Wales series *Run for Your Life*.

Among the group, made up of applicants from across Wales, will be the Morriston Minors – Eve Jeffery, Ceri Jones, Samantha John, Ruth Gates, Helen Jones and Kay Myatt.

They were selected after Morriston Education Centre manager Eve sent the programme makers a video pleading for Gareth's help to get them up and running.

"We're really pleased to have been picked. I signed us up because I was ready to make a few changes myself to get healthier, we are all shapes and sizes and some of us are more experienced than others but this is just what we need to really help us focus," said Eve.

As a result, they have secured free entry into the half marathon, a training programme, weekly motivational videos from Alfie and his team as well as membership to a closed online group so they can share their experiences as they get closer to the starting line.

The Morriston team has taken part in a special training session with Alfie held in Cardiff which brought all the Angels together for the first time. After a series of talks by fitness experts from RUN 4 Wales they all took part in a short run – filmed for the series – and will be shown later this year.

After the session Gareth tweeted: "An amazing morning with the amazing *@Alfies_Angels*. Moved to tears and inspired by everyone of them.xx"

Eve said: "The training session was amazing, we were really motivated. They took us on the run which was supposed to be a mile – but ended up being nearly twice that – and Alfie was with us all the way.

"It has inspired us and we try to train together every week and do as much as we can on our own in between.

"All 100 of us will get together again on September 4 for another run of 6.6 miles so we should really be able to see the difference by then. We are then tackling the Swansea Bay 10k."

She added: "I can't say I have fallen in love with running yet but this has helped me to change my lifestyle and be more active."

'The Barry at War group all set for Wartime Weekend'

BARRY at War group is busy preparing for its biggest event of the year – Wartime Weekend at Barry Island Station on September 3 and 4.

Our aim is to show something of what people from Barry the rest of Britain experienced during the two world wars of the 20th century and other major conflicts.

So, at the heart of this year's event is a series of presentations on aspects of World War One and World War Two. In the 'Ops Room', learn about the Paddle Steamer Barry at Gallipoli, the pilots of the Battle of Britain and the Welshman from Swansea who fought across Europe in the US Army; and hear from veterans themselves in conversation. The short World War One film *Letters Home* will be shown on both days.

By way of entertainment we expect 'Our Angela' from Barry and Arthur Cook (aka Winston Churchill) from Devon and the ladies choir Only Menopause Aloud singing the songs of the 1940s!

You might want to join in with the Lindy Hop dancers and you should not miss the two 1940s fashion shows on the Sunday. The platform will be packed with interesting stalls and we expect military vehicles out front to entice folks to come inside …

Children should look out for the 'Sweety Lady' selling sweets from her 'horse box' on Sunday.

The Barry War Museum will be open and the recently refreshed wartime kitchen is a must see – as is 'Private Chick' in his redcoat.

A full programme of events can be found on our website: *www.barrywarmuseum.org.uk/wartime-weekend.html*.

Glen Booker,
Group Chairman.

Marie Curie picnic concert

THE Cowbridge Marie Curie fundraising group is asking residents of the Vale to join them for a concert with the Morriston Orpheus Male Voice Choir and the Caradog String Quartet on Sunday, August 21 at St Donat's Castle at 2.30pm.

All proceeds from the event will help support people living with a terminal illness and their families at the charity's hospice in Penarth, or in their own homes locally.

Tickets are £17 per person, which includes a glass of prosecco and visitors are asked to bring a picnic and dine on the lawn while enjoying the concert!

Can you host a 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning'?

THE 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support is set to take place on Friday, September 30 and the charity is asking GEM readers to host a coffee morning for friends, family, classmates or colleagues.

"In Wales, more than 19,000 people are diagnosed with cancer every year.

"Our goal is to make sure no one faces cancer alone. We provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support, as well as campaigning for better cancer care," a spokeswoman said.

"Last year more than 12,500 people in Wales signed up to hold Macmillan coffee mornings to raise funds to help people affected by cancer.

"The money raised helps to pay for Macmillan professionals working in Wales to help people affected by cancer including our specialist cancer nurses, welfare benefits advisers, speech therapists, physiotherapists and dietitians.

"If you'd like to find out more about holding a coffee morning for Macmillan, you can visit our website to request a free Coffee Morning Kit at coffee.macmillan.org.uk. It has everything you need to host a brilliant coffee morning."

For information or support from Macmillan, call free on 0808 808 00 00 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm) or visit macmillan.org.uk.

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Dog Grooming Parlour

We are delighted that SIMONE SMITH has rejoined our team of groomers at Sleek & Chic.
Simone has spent the past year grooming dogs and cats at The Groom Room, Pets at Home in Barry.
We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have this experienced and professional groomer back with Sleek & Chic.
Simone joins a professional team of groomers consisting of Kim Mills, Louise Starkey and Kate Bromwich whose appointments are all organised by our experienced Sophie Jenkins. Sophie, manager of MY FAVOURITE PET SHOP (which is situated next door to Sleek & Chic) and CARE4PETS pet care agency, is the first point of contact when clients call to make an appointment or enquire about our other pet services.
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LOCAL CHURCHES UNITE FOR FLOWER FESTIVAL

THE South Vale Group of Churches will next month hold a joint flower festival in the five parishes that make up the group.

From September 9 – 11, come and enjoy the beauty of nature in the ancient and modern settings of the churches in Porthkerry and Rhoose, Penmark, Llantrithyd and Llancarfan. Tickets are £5 to visit all five churches and will be payable at the first church you visit. The themes and opening times of the individual churches are as follows:

St Peter's Rhoose CF62 3EX: 'The Word of God', 9.30am – 6pm Friday and Saturday September 9 and 10; 11am – 6pm on Sunday, September 11.

Craft stall, cakes and refreshments and soup lunches will be available, 11.30am – 1.30pm on September 10th.

St Curig's, Porthkerry CF62 3BZ: 'The Word of God' at 9.30am – 6pm Friday and Saturday 9 and 10; 1pm – 4pm Sunday 11.

There will also be a display of the church's history and parish registers will be available.

St Mary's Penmark CF62 3BP: 'All Things Bright and Beautiful', 10am – 4pm Friday and Saturday 9 and 10 and Sunday 11.

St Illtyd's Llantrithyd CF71 7UB: 10am – 4pm on Friday and Saturday 9 and 10. 12.30pm – 4pm on Sunday 11. Visit this newly restored ancient church.

St Cadoc, Llancarfan CF62 3AD: 'Festivals and Festivities', 10am – 4pm on Friday and Saturday 9 and 10. 12.30pm – 4pm on Sunday 11.

There will also be an opportunity to view the medieval wall paintings.

The weekend will finish with a Songs of Praise Service at 7pm in St Peter's Church Rhoose, when all five churches will be represented. All are welcome. **HJ**

Open Gardens Trail raised £5,533 for The Children's Society

THE total raised in Penarth from the Open Gardens Trail for The Children's Society was £5,533, and on behalf of the society, thanks go to the following: Jane Starling, 164 Redlands Road; Ann Dobbins, 68 Redlands Road; Diana Mead, 77 Coleridge Avenue; Elizabeth and Humphrey Palmer, 82 Plymouth Road; Chris and Rob Edwards, 135 Plymouth Road; Freda Welch, 133 Westbourne Road; Jon and Judy Dewis, Cosmeston Cottages, Lavernock Road; the inspiring children's garden at the public library; and the wonderful allotments in Westbourne Road.

It's your support, hard work and dedication, that enthuses the visitors each year, which in turn raises much-needed funds for the society, as we mark the 20th anniversary of this popular event.

Thank you to The GEM for their invaluable publicity.

Ann Lush,
(Hon vice-president of The Children's Society and chairman, Penarth fundraising committee).

There are a few seats available on a coach going to the National Botanic Gardens of Wales on Thursday, September 22 leaving All Saints' Church at 9.30am.

For further information call Ann Lush on 02920 703547 or Sue Bailey on 02920 700002.

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The GEM	45,489 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Priceless
Barry & District News	3,929 (Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 50p
Penarth Times	4,132 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 50p
South Wales Echo	19,158 (Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 65p
Western Mail	18,641 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094 (Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	14,789 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl
Latest abc Data available
That's why advertisers continue to enjoy a positive response from us - The GEM is 'Priceless'!
Remember - we distribute over 45,000 complimentary copies of The GEM throughout the Vale, Bridgend & Porthcawl every week – packed with all the content that makes a community newspaper really worth reading!
(Figures correct as of April 2016)

Vale Show highlighted need to back farmers

THE Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show opened its doors to the community last Wednesday on the Fonmon Castle grounds for a fantastic day of livestock competitions, locally sourced produce and family fun.

I must admit it is my personal highlight of the year, in terms of community events, and last week did not disappoint.

It included animals of all shapes and sizes, from dog shows to sheep; horses to cattle. The livestock-showing process is fascinating; anyone can watch and learn to find out what features farmers look for when breeding animal stock.

The cattle showing was particularly interesting for me this year. I was able to take part, thanks to Abi Reader, of Goldsland Farm near Wenvoe, who kindly allowed me to show one of her dairy calves, Marjorie.

The children showing their calves around me, made the process of showing look easy, while I struggled to control Marjorie in what I am told, was quite a comic scene. (You can judge my efforts for yourself by watching the video on my Facebook page.)

The competition didn't end with the livestock shows, the show jumping and the Hunt Scurry were a pleasure to watch with some of the finest riders and horses in Wales taking to the field. These were followed by a display of a dog agility race which was enjoyed by dogs and spectators in equal measure.

Welsh Secretary **ALUN CAIRNS** reports to GEM readers

Even the home produce marquee was a competitive environment with some of the best cooks in the Vale and from further afield attracting visitors to some of the best local produce available.

Many similar shows have lost their agricultural focus, the Vale Show has maintained this tradition and I think for the better.

Thousands of hours go into organising this event, which brings the community together, rural and urban to celebrate the most fundamental industry we have. The organisers have done another fantastic job, and many will have left the show with new family memories, fuller bellies, and a greater appreciation of farming.

In the wake of Brexit, there have been concerns about the future of farming subsidies.

Now is the time for politicians and the public to show that they back Welsh farming and I am pleased that the Chancellor has given farmers certainty, by announcing that the current system of support will continue until 2020, before a domestic system is established.

The importance of farming to the Vale, Wales and the UK can't be overstated, and I would like to thank the Vale Show for bringing it to the forefront of the community once again.

Alun Cairns is MP for the Vale.

Deadline for events grant

THE Vale Council is offering financial support to local event organisers an opportunity to hold their event on the recently-refurbished Eastern Promenade at Barry Island… but those interested have only two more weeks in which to apply.

The council has available an events grant scheme from which event organisers can apply for funding of up to £1,000. Organisers who wish to apply for funding for events taking place before the end of March 2017 should contact the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Events Team via email to sejones@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

The closing date is 12 noon on Wednesday, August 31.

Digital support award for Newydd Housing

NEWYDD Housing Association has been recognised for the digital support it provides to its tenants and communities.

It has been awarded Digital Charter accreditation for its their digital inclusion programme, which aims to help people throughout the Vale of Glamorgan to improve IT skills and get online.

The programme, run in partnership with the Vale Council, Barry Communities First, Hafod Housing Association and Wales and West Housing Association, has been commended for its support to local communities.

Sessions are provided by Digital Champions, who volunteer to help support people with a range of activities – from basic computing and online shopping to Universal Credit.

FEAST OF MUSIC

ON Sunday, August 21, the choir of St Clement's Cambridge will sing with the church choir at St Illtud's, Llantwit Major at the 10am service; then at 6pm they will sing the 1662 version of Evensong with anthems, on their own.

Over the bank holiday weekend, there will be incidental music during the Flower Festival at St Illtud's, featuring local organists, the Tarlton Ensemble at midday on Saturday, August 27; and Harping On at 2pm. There will be Songs of Praise at 6pm on Sunday, August 28.

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WWII fighter pilot's poem centre of unique event

ST ATHAN will be centre of a unique project that will see a poem written by a World War Two Spitfire pilot recited simultaneously across the world.

On August 18, 1941, at Llandow Airfield in the Vale, Spitfire pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee Jr wrote a poem *High Flight*.

It became the official poem of the Royal Canadian Air Force and is inscribed on memorials all over the world.

The poem also features as part of The BBC Battle of Britain Commemorations.

Pilot Officer John Magee Jr died three months after writing the poem in a mid-air collision near Lincoln.

At 12 midday, by permission of the Commanding Officer, MoD St Athan, *High Flight* will be recited simultaneously all over the world, including China, Canada, USA, Australia and the Netherlands, as well as MoD St Athan.

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Stuart Egan will be joined by HM Deputy Lord Lieutenant Colin Jones and officers representing the RAF, as well as veterans.

John Gillespie Magee Jr is survived by his brother, the Rev Canon Hugh Magee, who, along with his wife Yvonne, will be attending with the instigator of the event, Dr Jay Pinto.

The service will start at 11.45am in the Multi Faith Centre at MoD St Athan, CF62 4WA, and concludes with a celebratory concert by the Birmingham-based vintage-inspired trio,'The Glamophones'.

High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds – and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of – wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air....
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace.
Where never lark, or even eagle flew —
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
– Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

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Watch words on crime in countryside are that 'prevention is better than cure'

by GEM REPORTER

AT the Vale Show on August 10, representatives from Rural Watch – operated by Safer Vale and Safer Bridgend – were on hand to give advice to the rural community, both professionals such as landowners and farmers.

According to recent analysis by NFU Mutual of claims, across the UK, rural crime to the value of some £42.5m was committed in 2015.

Costs in Scotland were, at £1.8m, the lowest in the UK, closely followed by Wales at £2m. The value in Northern Ireland amounted to £2.7m with England making up the remainder.

Safer Vale is a partnership between South Wales Police and the Vale Council. Safer Bridgend is Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and the local force.

Officers and PCSOs, and council staff with colleagues from Victim Support, work together on the region-wide programme.

Speaking after the show, Gethin Robinson, employed by the Vale Council as a community safety manager, explained how the scheme works in the Vale.

"First, I want to reassure residents that it's an improving picture in the Vale. The rural Vale remains generally a safe place to live, work and do business.

"Rural Watch is similar to Neighbourhood Watch; the main difference being that your closest 'neighbour' in the countryside might be a mile or two away, not next door."

Mr Robinson said that prevention was better than cure.

"It's the basics, really. Shut gates; don't leave vehicles – especially quadbikes or 4X4s – or equipment in plain sight, although with a 30-foot trailer, that's not so easy."

He added that people in rural areas often have a good nose for strangers who may innocently be out for a drive, and more transient visitors.

"We do see trends, which can be seasonal – such as flygrazing in the Vale, although I am not aware of any rustling or poaching in the area – but again, it comes down to common sense.

"Keep gates shut, put signage up warning that you're part of Rural Watch and have CCTV, and fit tracking devices to expensive equipment.

"Residents and businesspeople in the Vale can also sign up for 'community messaging'," said Mr Robinson.

"It's really simple – and it works. A person registers and then receives an email, telephone call or fax about incidents in their area.

"These schemes raise awareness and give a voice to all in the rural community, and I encourage all residents in our rural areas to become involved."

Visit safervale.co.uk and www.saferbridgend.org.uk for more information. Telephone 999 in an emergency or 101 for less urgent matters.

GEM staff (and Vale Show visitors) boost Marie Curie hospice...

Vanessa, Jan and Wendy from The GEM at the show.

MARIE CURIE Hospice, Cardiff and the Vale, is to receive £336.65 – after the GEM sales staff organised a special raffle at the Vale of Glamorgan show!

Thanks to the following local businesses for their kind donations to our raffle, and to everyone who bought a raffle ticket.

The Pencil Case, Cowbridge; Colours, Cowbridge; Amanda Jones Jewellery; Arthur John, Cowbridge; The Bay Tree, Cowbridge; Elephant & Bun Deli, Cowbridge; Lemon Tree Beauty and Nails, Cowbridge; Sam B, Ewenny; Solo Hair Design, Bonvilston; Chris Williams Optometrist, Llantwit Major; JRC, Cowbridge; High Society, Cowbridge; Sylvia Williams Chemist, Cowbridge; Jon Ian, Cowbridge; The Horse and Groom, Cowbridge; Victoria Inn, Sigingstone; Vic Hopkins Butcher, Barry; Food For Thought, Barry; Studio 14, Barry; Vale Funeral Service; Smelly Shop, Barry; Sunkissed, Llantwit Major; WH Smith, Cowbridge; Norma Davies Optician, Cowbridge; VFM Meat Supplies, Barry; Topstak, Cowbridge; GEM staff.

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4th Prize £50 (Donated by Chris Davies Estate & Letting Agents)

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Book in on the day: Llantwit Major Beach Cafe from 9.00am

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'Scouring effect of wind' might be changing beach

PHOTOGRAPHER Andy Wicks took this image of Whitmore Bay recently and we posed the question: does it indicate sand is being swept off the beach?

GEM reader Val Powell got in touch, and said: "You asked if the sand stripping on the beach at Barry Island was an unusual sight.

"It's not, and can be seen any day of the week as the high tide recedes.

"We've been noting the poor condition of the beach from the eastern end to almost midway for most of this year and have commented on it many times.

"Perhaps it's the scouring effect of the wind, but it certainly looks like the beach is sick."

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Change Step Wales volunteers with one of the benches.

Veterans stand to and help visitors sit down

NEW benches have been installed by army veterans at St Fagan's National History Museum as part of redevelopment work on the site.

The volunteers, working together with staff from the museum's historic buildings unit, helped install the benches along the new Tarmac pathway, which leads up to Bryn Eryr Iron Age farmstead – the first building to be completed as part of the St Fagan's redevelopment project.

The veterans were volunteering through Change Step, a Welsh charity run by and for former forces personnel, offering peer mentoring and help to access relevant services, with support from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund.

The benches, which allow those with limited mobility to reach the new buildings on the site more easily, are also sited with space for wheelchairs, so that as many as possible can enjoy a day out at St Fagan's, reputedly Wales' most popular outdoor visitor attraction.

Bethan Lewis, head of St Fagan's, said: "Visitors of all ages enjoy a day out at St Fagan's, so we were aware of the need to install benches for people to rest and enjoy the surroundings. The Change Step volunteers have done a fantastic job and the benches were installed just in time for the summer holidays. Their work has been a vital contribution to our redevelopment project here at St Fagans and I hope they enjoyed the experience."

Entry to the seven national museums in Wales is free.

Two Show presidents together!

THESE pictures were taken at the Vale of Glamorgan Show last week by Heather March of Llantwit Major.

Former president Dr Peter Beck and Mrs Beck are pictured with president Andrew RT Davies.

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BEREAVED MUM SO GRATEFUL FOR TY HAFAN'S CONTINUING SUPPORT

Janine and Daniel

IT'S every parent's worst nightmare to be told their newborn baby has a life-limiting condition.

When Janine Bennett from Cardiff was pregnant, there was no indication that anything was wrong with her unborn son.

But as soon as Daniel was born, he stopped breathing for six minutes and was rushed to a neonatal unit where he was resuscitated.

A few weeks later, Janine and her husband Clive were told the devastating news that their son, Daniel, had a rare genetic neuro-muscular condition called myotubular myopathy.

Soon after the diagnosis, they visited Tŷ Hafan to see if it was somewhere they'd feel comfortable for Daniel to spend the rest of his short life.

Janine, a production planner at GE Healthcare, said: "When we visited we were really, really surprised. It is just such a sanctuary. From having no hope, we were given hope and we knew it was somewhere we wanted to be."

Sadly, the family never made it to Tŷ Hafan in Sully as Daniel's condition deteriorated quite quickly.

Before Daniel lost his battle at five weeks old, Tracy Hill, their Tŷ Hafan family support practitioner, supported the family at hospital.

Janine said: "Tracy made us feel normal. Even for a short time, she helped us feel like a normal family. She came to the hospital several times and helped with feet and hand impressions and memory jewellery. She also brought in a cuddly toy as it was Easter time."

Tŷ Hafan's support never stops for the bereaved. Janine and Clive often visit the hospice and Tracy still keeps in touch to offer the family support when they need it.

Janine said: "At the end of last year I was really struggling. Tracy was there to offer a calm and gentle new perspective. Her support has been invaluable.

"Tŷ Hafan is like a reassuring arm. I don't know what we would have done without them. They helped us create precious memories with our son and have helped us deal with something that we'd be struggling to come to terms with on our own."

As a way of giving something back to the charity, Janine has been fundraising through her employer and supports Tŷ Hafan by playing the charity's popular 'Crackerjackpot' lottery every week.

Little did she know that less than a year after beginning playing, she would receive a phone call telling her she had scooped the weekly guaranteed top prize of £2,000.

Janine said: "I couldn't believe it when I found out. It's was such a lovely surprise. We are going to spend some of our winnings on a holiday to Cornwall this month to celebrate my birthday. Our lovely cat Milly-Moonbeam will also be joining us!"

Janine added: "The lottery is a great fun way to support Tŷ Hafan and you are doing something to help people on your doorstep. I am going to encourage everyone I work with to play.

"We are going to continue supporting Tŷ Hafan in any way we can.

"All the tears we've shed and the torment we've experienced is worth it knowing we are supporting other families in the same situation and helping them have the same happiness we did, even if it's for a short period."

Janine's colleagues are preparing for their second fundraising walk next spring, after completing the Brecon Mountain Trail last year.

She said: "We would like to thank GE Healthcare for being so supportive. They have been fantastic in supporting our fund-raising efforts as well as being incredibly understanding and accommodating with our situation."

Costing £1 a week, the lottery is one way to support Tŷ Hafan and the services it provides to children with life-limiting conditions and their families. Every week a player wins £2,000 and 80 other people win cash prizes from £5 to £10.

There is also a rollover, which can reach £12,000.

Join today by visiting www.lottery.tyhafan.org or by calling 029 2053 2300.

The cheque is presented to Tŷ Hafan.

'Back Welsh Farming' campaign at Show

NFU Cymru's 'It's Time to Back Welsh Farming' campaign rolled into roadside fields leading to the Vale of Glamorgan Show last week.

'It's Time to Back Welsh Farming' bale stickers were strategically positioned along the main routes to the showground at Fonmon Castle Park.

Abi Reader, Glamorgan NFU Cymru county chairman, said: "NFU Cymru has always taken the lead when it comes to championing public support for our Welsh farmers, so it's great to see the 'It's Time to Back Welsh Farming' campaign gathering further momentum in my home county, at such a pivotal time for the industry."

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'Inspirational' college students collect awards for adult learners...

ABOVE: Vale Inspire Award winners with Vale AM Jane Hutt and Coun Eddie Egan, deputy Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan.

FIFTEEN students from Cardiff and Vale College have been recognised for their inspirational work and dedication at a special ceremony to honour adult learners.

Organised by the Vale Learning Network, the Vale Inspire Awards 2016 celebrate lifelong learning in the Vale. Held at the college's Glamorgan Suite restaurant at its Barry campus, the awards were presented by the Vale's AM Jane Hutt and Deputy Mayor Coun Eddie Egan.

Gareth Williams won apprentice of the year. Gareth, an apprentice with CAVC and personal trainer service Barry FITM8, overcame personal difficulties and is now training to be an instructor and hopes to progress on to becoming a personal trainer.

The health and wellbeing award went to Jordan Leach who, despite facing numerous barriers in life, found that returning to education contributed massively to his mental health and wellbing.

Jordan has been able to update his skills, apply for new jobs and is now on a CAVC Foundation degree in law. He hopes to progress on to university to top up to a full degree, and then pursue a legal career.

Roda Hussein received the lifelong learning award. Roda had no English when she came to the UK from Somalia aged 12 and was bullied at school. She applied to CAVC to study health sciences but was signposted to ESOL (English for speakers of other languages).

From ESOL, Roda progressed to a Level 2 business diploma and then Level 3. She was accepted by Cardiff Metropolitan University to study a degree in international business management and plans to become a social entrepreneur.

"It's amazing to win this award," Roda, who is also a CAVC Community Governor, said. "I'm blessed to represent my community at the college – it's been like a second home to me."

Charlotte Mould won the progression award, having progressed from Level 1 Health and Social Care through Level 2 and Level 3, achieving the highest grades. Despite thinking she would never qualify for university, in part due to her dyslexia, Charlotte has received an offer from Swansea University to study BSc mental health nursing.

Four CAVC learners also received awards for progression into higher education: Shahana Raahat-Hussein, Megan Harrington, Spencer Penn and Andrew Gwynne.

Junaid Akmal, who received a progression to work award, lost an arm at early age and was fitted with a prosthetic arm. An infrequent attender at school, Junaid initially did not enjoy his entry level course at CAVC, but he and his tutor were able to set specific targets with the aim of getting him into work.

Junaid is now working at the Royal Mail sorting office in Cardiff, and is waiting to find out if he will be awarded a permanent contract.

The tutor award went to Leham Abraham, who originally came to the UK as an asylum seeker and enrolled on an ESOL course with CAVC in 2004. She progressed over the next few years and successfully achieved a Level 2 diploma in business.

Always supportive of her fellow students on the courses she took, Leham volunteered as an assistant to her college department. She has completed the Level 3 ESOL practitioners course and is now an adult learning support worker. She has taught across a number of CAVC courses and within the community and is studying for her postgraduate certificate in education at the college.

Harry Cole and Sabrina Islam both won young learner awards. Abouzar Noghani won the Sports Development Award for his work in supporting the CAVC ESOL football team and progressing from an ESOL course to a Sports Coaching degree from the University of Glamorgan.

Abouzar has worked with CCFC's under-21 team and is moving to Lisbon to join the coaching team at a Portuguese club.

Mark Rees was honoured with the role model award is a health and wellbeing learner and has turned his life around, losing six stone before starting the course and completely transforming his approach to health.

Mark has recently run in the Cardiff Half Marathon, set up cricket tester days for fellow CAVC students and volunteers for Welsh Gymnastics, supporting heats for children with disabilities. He now wants to use his experience to inspire others and aims to become a fitness trainer.

The overall Vale Inspire Award also went to a CAVC student. Lydia Evans came to CAVC to study childcare as a young single mother who was living in difficult conditions and was often supported by the student emergency fund.

An excellent student who always achieved top grades despite having to make many sacrifices, Lydia applied for sessional work at Flying Start and has now been taken on as a full time practitioner.

Aviation company AerFin was also recognised for its work in supporting CAVC's aircraft engineering students.

Jane Hutt AM said: *"The stories of all of the winners we have heard this evening are so positive – they are absolutely remarkable. They have done through ambition, energy and skill and with the backing others, the Vale Learning Network and College tutors.*

"All of the winners will go on to achieve even more and make a real difference to the economy and to other people's lives."

Careers Wales advice for school leavers

THOUSANDS of students across Bridgend county borough are receiving their A-level results today, hoping to progress into full-time education, or the workplace.

Careers Wales will be offering dedicated results days services, including A-level webinars, social media support and a Careers Wales Connect telephone advice line. The national advice service's 'Are You Ready for Work?' roadshow is in Swansea city centre for A-level results day, and Cardiff for GCSE results day.

The Careers Wales helpline will be available Monday to Friday from 9am – 6pm on 0800 028 4844 to those receiving A-level and GCSE results.

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*students success rate at CAVC at Higher Education level - 2015 / *cyfradd llwyddiant myfyrwyr yn CAVC ar lefel Addysg Uwch – 2015

Cardiff and Vale College joins forces with leading universities to incease its range of courses in higher education

CARDIFF and Vale College (CAVC) has partnered with a range of leading universities to increase its provision of higher education courses.

The college has doubled the number of university courses on offer, introducing a range of new and exciting degree options. People can study for a university degree of their choice at CAVC, and places are still available for the 2016/17 academic year.

Going to a local college makes it possible to gain a university education without the cost of leaving home to study. CAVC's wide range of higher education courses are offered in partnership with leading universities from across the country – from foundation degrees that can be topped up, to a full degree by taking a third year in university – right up to postgraduate study with the PGCE teaching qualification.

From game art and design to finance, the courses are designed to meet the needs of employers from across the region and beyond, equipping graduates with the skills and expertise to address job market demands.

Students can benefit from the outstanding facilities on offer at the college, including a dedicated higher education centre in its £45m new city centre campus in Cardiff. The emphasis is on learning in an environment which fully prepares students for the world of work.

CAVC's industry-standard facilities, including the internationally recognised Cardiff International Sports Campus in Leckwith and the International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) as well as the college's extensive creative studios and workshops, stand CAVC graduates in good stead for their future careers.

Further advantages of higher level study at the college include access to both college and university facilities, staying close to home while studying which saves money on travel and accommodation, and part-time study to fit in with work or other commitments.

The college works alongside the University College Birmingham and Buckingham New University, Cardiff Met, Kingston University, the University of South Wales and University of West London, giving people the opportunity to gain university-level qualifications in a range of subjects. Many are unique to the region.

Courses include a new airline and airport management degree, which is based at ICAT. This internationally-renowned facility, based at Cardiff Airport, includes classrooms as well as specialist workshops, laboratories and a real-life hangar with aircraft.

Lewis Richmond is studying for a bachelor of science degree in aircraft engineering at ICAT. CAVC students such as Lewis can progress from Level 3 courses on to the college's HE programme.

"I've always been interested in engineering but I wasn't sure what field was for me," Lewis said. "Aircraft engineering covered the key areas I was looking for; hydraulics, pneumatics and electrics.

"I progressed on to the BSc Honours Degree from the Level 3 course here at CAVC. That course really opens your eyes to how much goes on inside an aircraft and it highlighted that this was the industry for me.

"The college has a link with British Airways, which is based just around the corner. It's a great way to learn and a stepping stone for getting into the industry. I've had a six-week placement with BA previously and have another three-week block coming up soon."

Daniel Lock, who is studying the HND in computing, said: "I've been studying IT at the college and this HND course is great as it's more in-depth at this level and is delivered in partnership with the University of South Wales. I've experienced website development as well as programming, databases and now practical aspects such as digital media – which involve Photoshop, HTML and producing websites.

"These skills are really transferable. The tutors are very helpful – I can always ask them for advice whenever I need it."

New and established foundation degrees and HND/Cs on offer include hospitality, tourism and events management; fashion styling; electrical engineering; performing arts; film; psychology; product design; ceramics; care; service sector management; graphic communications; textiles; sport coaching; photography; popular music technology; business; IT; teaching and more.

Students at CAVC are reputed to be among the most satisfied in the country, with the college rated above the national average for teaching and learning. The college has a 90 per cent success rate for students studying university level courses, which is 11.4 per cent up on the national comparator, and the college has specialist lecturers who are fully engaged with their industries and the latest trends and developments.

There is also a bursary scheme for all HE learners on full-time or part-time courses.

There is still time to find a place on a higher education course at Cardiff and Vale College that starts in September for the 2016-17 academic year. Call the college's clearing team on 029 20 250 382 or visit an open enrolment day at Cardiff City Centre Campus, Dumballs Road, or the Barry Campus on Colcot Road on Wednesday, August 31 from 10am – 7.30pm.

NEWS FROM FONMON APIARY

On Sentinel duty to watch out for pests!

THE beekeeping year is well advanced now; swarming has been a factor for me to handle here at the apiary, plus multiple calls from the public to deal with swarms on and in their properties.

Swarming is not at all unusual; it is, after all, how honeybees secure the survival of the species – it is just that some years, swarming is more pronounced than others.

To date, I have carried out one in-depth examination of the colonies at Fonmon apiary in my role of Sentinel apiary! Throughout the British Isles, I and other beekeepers have been asked to play our part, in conjunction with the National Bee Unit inspectors, in early detection of exotic pests that threaten the existence of the bees.

This month, the local inspector (Dinah Sweet) from Caerphilly has paid me a visit and has informed me that there will now be three inspections per year instead of two, due to the increased threat of exotica appearing.

What are these exotic pests? **1:** Tropilaelaps – another mite in the same category as the already well-established varroa mite. **2:** The Small Hive Beetle – this, as the name suggests, is a beetle that, unlike the fluid-sucking mites, will completely trash a colony of honeybees. **3:** The Asian Hornet – this hornet is a predator of honeybees, it will patrol the area of a hive and, given the opportunity, it will kill bees and eventually bring about colony failure.

Can I stress that we do not have any confirmed findings of the above mentioned species to date. However, it is only a matter of time! And as we have a penchant for shipping foodstuffs and materials around the world, we do assist many alien species be they plant or animal to invade areas where natural barriers would prevent such occurrences.

As I have mentioned the year is moving on and our literature is reminding us to look to preparing our bees for the coming winter. The times they are a-changing and it will be the weather and the state of the colonies, not the calendar, that must guide us.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Campaigning group secures deal for elderly home owners

A CAMPAIGNING group for older people says that building societies are changing their rules on lending to the elderly after intensive lobbying by the group.

ABOVE: Howard Lewis speaking at the Principality AGM. (Photo by Paul Jones).

At the 2016 annual general meeting of the Principality Building Society in Cardiff, chief executive officer Graeme Howes Yorston confirmed that the society would be revising its lending policy for older customers.

The effect could be that more people will be able to stay in their homes, rather than move to a care home.

In previous years, lending to people in this category hasn't been considered on a case by case basis, as age caps are in place across the mortgage industry.

Mortgage companies see their main business as younger customers in many cases those wishing to get on the property ladder.

Howard Lewis, the chairman of the United Kingdom Older Peoples' Advisory Group and a co-director of Change AGEnts Network UK Ltd – a type of co-operative – had raised this subject previously with Principality and, subsequently, congratulated the board on its decision to look again at lending into retirement and the lending needs of older people.

Mr Yorston acknowledged that the persistence of people such as Mr Lewis had kept this issue at the top of their agenda.

Mr Lewis said that older housing stock is often found to be unsuitable for the elderly or infirm, often forcing them to move – or even enter care homes or hospital, with all their associated costs.

The possibility of loans to senior citizens to enable any necessary modifications to be carried out is, said Mr Lewis, a huge step forward.

He added: "It's been encouraging to learn on the news that other companies have since raised the age 'ceiling' to which finance may be borrowed."

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AS A FAMILY MOVIE, PETE'S DRAGON IS JUST 'ROARSOME'

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

ASIDE from its clever mix of live-action and animation, 1977's *Pete's Dragon* isn't a film that particularly lives long in the memory

Unsurprising then, that it's a film ripe for remaking as director David Lowery shepherds *Pete's Dragon* into cinemas for a 21st-century audience.

Its stars Oakes Fegley as Pete, a young boy orphaned after a car accident who is found and looked after by the eponymous dragon of the title, a creature Pete names Elliott.

Eight years later and Pete is found in the woods by park ranger Grace (Bryce Dallas Howard). Returned to civilisation, Pete is initially mistrusting of the people who want to help him, but when Elliot goes looking for Pete and is found by logger Gavin (Karl Urban), he is forced to put his faith in Grace, her father Meacham (Robert Redford), her partner (and Gavin's brother) Jack (Wes Bentley) and his daughter Natalie (Oona Laurence) in order to save Elliott...

Director David Lowery isn't the first name you would associate with the remaking of a family film; his 2013 breakthrough *Ain't Them Bodies Saints* was the tale of an escaped outlaw reuniting with the family he'd never met, and yet while on the surface it would seem an ill-fit, digging beneath the layers there's plenty to connect it to *Pete's Dragon*.

You have the underlying sense of family, the need to find both solace and resolution with that, and the notion that what drives us to do anything is the desire to be accepted by our loved ones.

Thematically there is a sense of parallel lines here (albeit with added CGI dragon), and yet what makes *Pete's Dragon* soar is the way takes its cues from the family films of the 1980s in that it places story and character head and shoulders above anything else, resulting in a heartfelt and absorbing slice of cinema.

The fact that the impressively-rendered Elliott feels almost like an afterthought shows where Lowery places the emphasis, having had a hand in writing the script.

The film has an earthy, non-fantastical feel, low-key and yet amidst the dragon shenanigans there is a weight placed on the story.

The opening is both heartbreakingly sad and then uplifting, and this sets the tone for the film throughout, moments of emotional resonance rubbing against exhilarating sequences.

It is an assured outing for Lowery, who hasn't sacrificed his directorial instincts when being given a broader and more expansive canvas to work on.

The film carries an almost timeless feel, yet feels as though it is rooted in the late 1970s-early 1980s, perhaps a genuine nod to the impact the films of Amblin, for example, had on this production.

The cast are all superb, with Oakes Fegley delivering one the most impressive young turns seen in a long while. We've seen how youngsters sometime struggle to work in a CGI-heavy environment (*The Jungle Book* most notably) yet Fegley nails the interaction with Elliott, while his post-rescue struggle to come to terms with the world is reminiscent of Jacob Tremblay's performance in *Room*.

Bryce Dallas Howard offers a warm shoulder of support as the adult that Pete most connects with, while Oone Laurence's Natalie shares a likeable chemistry with Fegley.

Robert Redford's grizzled old story teller (he is the only person in the town to have seen the dragon) is a neat little turn, while Karl Urban's 'villain' is the latest in the line of slightly pompous, buffoonish characters that these films thrive on, the actor relishing the role.

And yet for all the human performances, it is the realisation of Elliott that is the key how good the film is. An odd blend of dragon with a canine-like face, he has all the attributes of a young puppy and as such is easy to fall for as Pete cares for him and vice-versa.

Their relationship is central to the film as a whole, but Elliott himself is superbly brought to life.

In a summer that has seen films with the visual volume turned up crash and burn, it's a pleasure to see something so beautifully crafted and subtle as this.

It is a family film and makes no bones about it, but under the auspices of David Lowery it becomes something far more substantial and satisfying – *Pete's Dragon* is a roar-some film!

VERDICT – A brilliant film that is one of the most surprisingly enjoyable films not just of the summer but of the year so far, there is so much to savour and enjoy about *Pete's Dragon*.

David Lowery's sensitive direction, superb performances and an engaging and uplifting story all converge to make a truly satisfying film. Highly recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKE: *Super 8* (2011), *ET* (1982).

Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D944.

● **£2,000:** 334565.

● The rollover, which stands at £1,000, was not won this week.

● **£10:** 665189, 502280, 745028, 668891, 965318, 837669, 906848, 148595, 920728, 573679, 158233, 857667, 115762, 268512, 390769, 312119, 884140, 245280, 171346, 5451.

● **£5:** 821108, 709875, 704087, 125810, 973930, 123741, 841896, 163434, 575895, 798734, 132688, 271335, 202666, 660997, 504530, 980111, 203092, 130040, 978185, 807567, 823551, 283886, 582653, 792660, 765575, 100905, 237795, 880434, 540073, 100615, 392644, 552021, 618322, 768350, 537451, 362929, 834006, 493377, 242788, 194056, 317415, 147302, 311231, 203795, 194046, 751880, 318740, 131751, 817233, 408754, 298176, 170748, 332278, 881601, 762621, 230316, 106362, 897606, 101923, 459.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information telephone 029 2053 2300.

Waverley's 70th birthday

Lundy Island.

***WAVERLEY*, the world's last sea-going paddle steamer will be marking her 70th birthday at Penarth Pier on September 3 and 4, ready to set sail for Ilfracombe in Devon and Lundy Island.**

On September 2, she will cruise up the River Severn and on September 5, there is a cruise to the Holm islands and the Somerset coast.

This year marks 70 years since *Waverley*'s launch in 1946 and she has now sailed longer in preservation than she did as a commercial enterprise.

Ross Cochrane, *Waverley*'s captain said: "I am proud to be at the helm of this beautiful historic ship in this anniversary year.

"Paddle steamers have sailed on the Bristol Channel since the 1800s and *Waverley* continues this tradition more than 200 years later."

Visit www.waverley excursions.co.uk. You can also book tickets by calling 0845 130 4647.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ward Councillors' surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Buttrills, Castleland and Court wards, Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans, Chris Elmore, Les Sword, Karl Khunell and Stuart Egan will hold their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, August 20 from 10am to 11am in the small community room, Barry Library, King Square. No appointment necessary.

Charity coffee morning

A COFFEE morning will be held in the All Saints' Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Saturday, August 20 from 10am until 12 noon.

Entry £1; plenty of bargains for all, plus a raffle. Come along and join the fun!

Car boot sale in Sully

THE Sully Sports and Social Club will hold a car boot sale on Bank Holiday Monday, August 29 from 7am (for sellers) and 7.30am for buyers. Cars £8, vans £16. Bring the family, but assistance dogs only, please.

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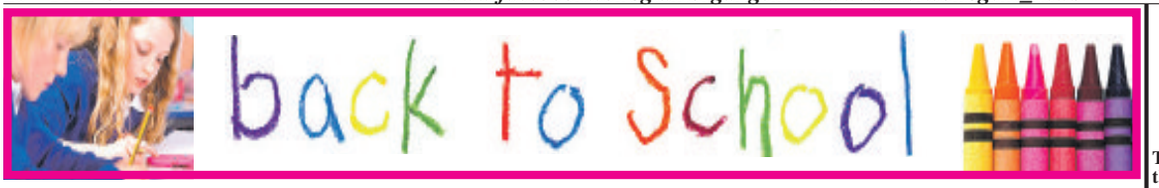

Pandora Christie.

Help is at hand on exam results day

THE Department for Education's exam results helpline is back, following the success of last year, when it supported over 9,500 students who received their A Level and GCSE results, and it will open on A-Level results day today (August 18).

KISS FM presenter Pandora Christie is supporting the helpline and wants to make sure that all young people are aware of it: "Getting exam results is a nerve racking time.

"When I did my exams, there were subjects that I loved – like English language, drama, history and Spanish – so I enjoyed studying for them.

"But I really struggled with maths and science for some reason; I just couldn't get my head around it,even with extra tuition.

"I remember sitting in the exam room sweating and dreading it, looking at my physics paper and thinking *– I don't understand any of this, can someone help?*

"When I got my results I found that I did well in most subjects... apart from maths and science, which I got a D for. After my GCSEs, I went straight into employment and signed up to a casting agency, but I later went on to do an AS in Spanish.

"I thought about going to university to do a drama degree, but I started to get a lot of acting jobs, so I never got round to applying.

"It's funny the way that things work out and that's why you shouldn't despair or panic when you get your exam results!

"When it's time, first of all, don't panic! The advisers at the Exam Results Helpline will be ready and waiting to give you the advice you need."

The Exam Results Helpline – 0808 100 8000 - opens on August 18 and remains open every day until August 31, so that students can call in to talk through their options.

Specialist Careers Advisers will be ready to provide guidance on a range of topics including resits, vocational courses, gap years, funding, careers and employment.

Students who are reconsidering their options based on results they have or have not achieved, should contact the Exam Results Helpline on 0808 100 8000.

If a student has a specific query about their university application, he or she should contact the UCAS Contact Centre on 0871 468 0468.

• For further information, visit www.ucas.com/examresultshelpline

Good response to the Western Front display

THE team manning the Western Front Association's tent at the Vale Show last week got a lot of very appreciative comments from visitors about the display of medals and artefacts.

Unsurprisingly, as the centenary of the Battle of Mametz Wood has only just passed, the display about the battle attracted a lot of attention, often from people whose ancestors had fought there.

A display of medals of members of the Glamorgan Yeomanry also attracted a lot of interest, again because of family connections with the regiment which served in Egypt during the war.

We had a steady flow of visitors of all ages throughout the day. The weapons on display caught the attention of many of the children, but quite a few seemed to be as interested in learning more about the war having come across it at school.

Quite a few of the grown-ups were interested in aspects of the war and, hopefully, learned a lot from talking to members of our team.

The general view seemed to be that the war was a dreadful waste, but that those who fought it for us should never be forgotten.

The south Wales branch of the association meets in Cardiff on the first Friday of the month at 7pm for 7.30pm at the Conservative Club in Ely Road. New members are always welcome and you can see more about our activities in the branch's page on the WFA website.

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To book a call-out from one of our team, simply give us a call on 01446 747702. Our shop opening hours are (Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.30pm, and Saturday 9.30am – 2.30pm) to speak to our on-site technician, or to use our highly-popular internet cafe.

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WANTED – a senior gardener at Dyffryn Gardens

DYFFRYN Gardens at St Nicholas in the Vale is looking for a senior gardener to help to transform their 22-acre arboretum into a major visitor attraction.

Chris Flynn, head gardener at Dyffryn said: "We're looking for someone with lots of technical experience, but also drive, ambition and determination to see the arboretum flourish.

"It's a great opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of work that will be seen by hundreds of thousands of people a year. You'll also be integral in maintaining some truly spectacular, rare and unusual trees and shrubs to be enjoyed by future generations."

"It is a five-year fixed term appointment, to lead the implementation of the first phase of the arboretum work to create a fantastic experience in the outdoor area at Dyffryn.

Visit www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk. Closing date for applications August 21.

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Family walk for Macmillan

ON Sunday, September 4, at 10am, Derek, 'The Weatherman Walking', will wave walkers off from The Llantrisant Leisure Centre for an eight-mile walk along footpaths that are wheelchair, pushchair and child friendly.

The Llantrisant Walk is one for the whole family and the day will be packed with fun and fundraising, plus a chance to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

"Many will take the opportunity to walk for someone special and get sponsorship money in their name.

"Why not make this your last fun challenge of the summer?" a spokeswoman said.

"There will be an 'after walk party' where you can kick off your walking boots and enjoy a free party with a DJ, an amazing ukulele band and a bouncy castle in the Llantrisant Leisure Centre.

"The Llantrisant Walk is hosted by The Pontyclun and District Macmillan fundraising group and MPS Healthcare Ltd is the main sponsor for the 2016 event.

The registration fee is £10 and includes t-shirt, goody bag and Macmillan Walk 2016 medal memento.

Children under 12 walk free, but will still get a goodie bag, a medal and an invitation to the party."

To register online, visit the website www.macmillan.org.uk/LlantrisantWalk or for more information check out www.macpontyclun.co.uk.

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THE 'GOLDILOCKS' OF AGRICULTURAL SHOWS IS ONCE AGAIN 'JUST RIGHT'

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

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by Andy Johnstone

AS the dust settles on another Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show, comparisons with previous years' shows will be made.

However, if one has not been to the show before, the only comparison can be with – no names, no pack drill – myriad other shows around Wales and the rest of the UK.

The Vale Show compares very favourably, very... 'Goldilocks' in its way.

Not too big, not too small, but just right.

It helps, naturally, that the sun shone and the cloud covered in the right proportions, and that no rain fell.

More than this, the atmosphere is different. It benefits by not having the corporate nature of some mega-agricultural shows, or the cookie-cutter approach of the branded countryside shows.

No, the Vale Show is a day of town-meets-country right in the heart of The GEM's patch.

Given a generous budget, one could have driven away with anything from a Range Rover Evoque convertible to the latest Landini tractor, a spa pool to a camping pod, and from a prize ram to a laying hen – and everything in between.

Given a more limited budget, it's a grand day out, and – cliche alert – fun for all the family.

Magnificent animals reigned supreme in the Open Hunter rounds, while the elegance of skilled equestriennes riding side-saddle drew gasps of admiration from all.

The beasts of the field in the livestock classes aptly demonstrated – a microcosm of Welsh agriculture, really – the quality of cattle and sheep, and farming in general, in the Vale.

NFU Cymru's #BackWelshFarming and the FUW's #FarmingMatters campaigns received timely promotion at the Vale Show.

Better than the supermarkets' version, it's an ideal way to see the farm-to-fork journey first-hand.

And many – adults and children – at the show saw the benefit of this, especially when milk prices, according to Government figures are, at around 19 pence per litre, down from 2013's high of some 35 pence per litre, and the lowest for 10 years.

A show of this size, ably managed by volunteers, takes a year to organise, so congratulations to all concerned and here's to the 2017 Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show!

See pages 24 and 25 for more photographs of the Vale Show.

***ABOVE:** In the judging ring.*

***RIGHT:** Getting ready for the poultry section judges to arrive.*

VALE SHOW RESULTS

Any pure beef breed other than Limousin or native breed

Class 1, Bull any age – first, S W Pegington, Nanty Gelli Farm, Llangwm; second, Rhys Millichap, Rhiw Garm Farm, Tonyrefail.

Class 2, Cow or heifer with calf at foot or cow in calf – No entries.

Class 3, Heifer in calf – first, S W Pegington.

Class 4, Maiden heifer – first, Rhys Millichap; second, Rhys Millichap; third, Rhys Millichap.

Class 5, The Welsh County Shows Competition for pedigree beef pairs owned by the same exhibitors – first, Rhys Millichap; second, Rhys Millichap; third, S W Pegington.

Championship for any breed other than Limousin and native beef breed

The Peter Wood and Sons Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the any other breed classes – Champion, Rhys Millichap; reserve, S W Pegington.

Any pure native breed

Class 6, Bull any age – first, V J Thomas & Sons, Pancross Farm, Llancarfan; second, V J Thomas & Sons; third, Stephen Lakin, Garn Farm, Wenvoe.

Class 7, Cow or heifer with calf at foot or cow in calf – first, Stephen Lakin.

Class 8, Heifer in calf – first, Arwyn Prichard, St Vians Hill, St Nicholas; second, Mr A K Thomas, New Breaua Farm.

Class 9, Maiden heifer – first, Arwyn Prichard; second, Mr A J Thomas.

Class 10, The Welsh County Shows Competition for pedigree beef pairs owned by the same exhibitor – first, Arwyn Prichard; second, Stephen Lakin.

Champion (rosette) for best Hereford

The Miss Ellen Thomas Challenge Cup for the best Hereford exhibit – Champion, V J Thomas & Sons; reserve, Arwyn Prichard.

Championship for the best pure native beef breed

The Hudstone shield for the best pure native beef championship – Champion, V J Thomas & Sons; reserve, Arwyn Prichard.

The Dalgetty Crossfields Cup for the best pair of beef cattle – Winner, Rhys Millichap; reserve, Gareth Jenkins, Tynewydd Farm, Groes Faen.

Championships

The Herbert R Thomas Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the beef classes – Champion, Rhys Millichap; Gareth Jenkins.

Class 17, Best beef herd, judged on a farm (min 20 breeding cows) suckler herd, pedigree or commercial – first, R D Edwards & Son, Pwllywrach Farm, Colwinston; second, Rhys Millichap; T D Llewellyn & Son, Old Beaupre Farm, St Hilary; fourth, Arwyn Prichard.

Class 11, Bull any age – first, Gareth Jenkins; second, Gareth Jenkins.

Class 12, Cow or heifer with calf at foot or cow in calf – First, Gareth Jenkins; second, E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilo Crossenny.

Class 13, Heifer in calf – no entries.

Class 14, Maiden heifer – first, L M Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer.

Class 15, the Welsh County Shows Competition for pedigree beef pairs owned by the same exhibitor – first, Gareth Jenkins.

The MT Board Cup for the best pair of Limousin – First, Gareth Jenkins.

The Arthur John and Co Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the Limousin classes – Champion, Gareth Jenkins; reserve, Gareth Jenkins.

Class 17, Calf under 12 months on day of show – first, Mr and Mrs Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport; second, Mr and Mrs Rickard; third, V J Thomas & Sons.

Class 18, Maiden heifer over 12 and under 18 months on day of show (not in calf) – first, R and M Lougher & Sons, Ty Tanglwst Farm, Pyle; second, V J Thomas & Sons; R and M Lougher & Sons.

Class 19, Heifer in calf – First, Mr and Mrs Rickard; second, R and M Lougher & Sons; third, V J Thomas & Sons.

Class 20, Cow in calf but not in milk, any age – first, R and M Lougher & Sons.

Class 21, Heifer in milk – first, V J Thomas & Sons; second, Mr and Mrs Rickard; V J Thomas & Sons.

The Ladbroke (Bridgend Creamery) Challenge Shield (winner of class 21) – winner, V J Thomas & Sons.

Class 22, Junior cow in milk (second/third lactation only) – First, Abi Reader, Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe; second, V J Thomas & Sons; third, R and M Lougher & Sons.

Class 23, Senior cow in milk (fourth lactation and above) – first, R and M Lougher & Sons; second, V J Thomas & Sons; R and M Lougher & Sons.

Class 24, Group of 8 in calf Holstein heifer – first, R and M Lougher & Sons; second, V J Thomas & Sons; third, Jack Evans & Son, Marcross Farm, Marcross; fourth, G Anthony, Haregrove Farm.

The Golden Vale Dairies Perpetual Challenge Cup (winner of class 23) – winner, R and M Lougher & Sons.

Championship for the best Holstein exhibit

The Glynne Clay Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the Holstein classes – Champion, Abi Reader; reserve, R & M Lougher & Sons.

Class 25, Maiden heifer (not in calf) – first, Abi Reader; second, RP & KJ Granville, Gelli Farm, Cefn Cribbwr, Bridgend; third, Abi Reader.

Class 26, Heifer in calf – first and second, RP & KJ Granville; third, Abi Reader.

Class 27, Dairy cow – first, second and third, Abi Reader.

The Richard Taylor Perpetual Challenge Cup

Winner, Abi Reader.

Class 28, Heifer in milk – first, Mr & Mrs Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport; second, RP & KJ Granville.

Championship for any other pure dairy breed

Champion, Abi Reader. Reserve, Mr & Mrs Rickard.

Class 29, Interbreed production and inspection classes (NNR & CIS) – first, second and third, R & M Lougher & Sons.

The Spillers Perpetual Challenge Cup – R & M Lougher & Sons.

Class 30, Best pair of dairy females, owned and shown by same exhibitor – first, R & M Lougher & Sons; second, Mr & Mrs Rickard; third, VJ Thomas Sons.

The Bill Francis Memorial Challence Trophy – champion, R & M Lougher & Sons; reserve, Mr & Mrs Rickard.

Class 31, Group of three dairy cattle, owned by the same exhibitor – first, R & M Lougher & Sons; second, VJ Thomas & Sons; third, Abi Reader.

The Corporation of Cowbridge Perpetual Challenge Bowl for the best group of dairy cattle

R & M Lougher & Sons.

Championship for best dairy calf – Champion Mr & Mrs Rickard; reserve, R & M Lougher & Sons.

Best heifer in milk

Champion, VJ Thomas & Sons; reserve, Mr 7 Mrs Rickard.

Best cow in milk

Champion, Abi Reader; reserve, R & M Lougher & sons.

Best dairy cow or heifer in the Show

TJ Yorwerth Memorial Perpetual Challenge Cup – champion, Abi Reader; reserve, R & M Lougher & Sons.

Supreme Championship for best exhibitor in the cattle classes

Wyndham Ivor Radcliffe Memorial Perpetual Challenge Cup – champion, Rhys Millichap, Rhiw Garm Farm, Tonyrefail; reserves, VJ Thomas & Sons; Gareth Jenkins, Tynewydd Farm, Groes Faen; Abi Reader.

Class 32, Handler 12 and under on day of show; calf 12 months and under, any breed – first, VJ thomas & Sons (May Thomas); second, Sophie & Megan Powell, Tyrywen, Maesycwmmer, Henoed; third, R & M Lougher & Sons; fourth and fifth, Abi Reader.

Class 17c, Glamorgan Farm Supplies Perpetual Challenge Trophy – VJ Thomas & Sons (May Thomas).

Class 33, Handler ages 13-18 on day of show, calf 12 months and under, any breed – first, Mr & Mrs Rickard; second and third, VJ thomas & Sons; fourth, RP & KJ Granville; fifth, Mr & Mrs Rickard; sixth, Sophie & Megan Powell.

Class 18c, The PJ Llewellyn Perpetual Challenge Cup – Mr & Mrs Rickard (Ben Baker).

Class 34, Handler 19-26 on day of show, calf 18 months and under, any breed – first, RP & KJ Granville; VJ Thomas & Sons; third, R & M Lougher & Sons.

WJ Bassett Perpetual Challenge Trophy – RP & KJ Granville (Kste Granville).

Class 35 – first, E Williams, Castell Llwyd Farm, Nelson; second, SH & C Williams, Pantycornant Farm, Glynogwr; third, E Williams.

Class 36 – first and second, E Williams; third, Arthur Davies, Maes yr Onw, Manmoel, Blackwood.

Class 37 – first, Arthur Davies; second and third, SH & C Williams.

Class 38 – first and second, E Williams; third, SH & C Williams.

Championship for best exhibit in Welsh Mountain sheep classes

Western Mail Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best exhibit – champion, E Williams; reserve, Arthur Davies.

Class 39 Ram – first, Miss Bethan Emma Davies, Bryn yr Eglwys, Llanfynydd, Carms; second, M/s Palmer & Hayward, Ysgurorgoch Farm, St Andrews Major, Dinas Powys; third, Paul Bertorelli, Pencoed Farm, Bryncethin.

Class 40 Ram lamb – first, Mr & mrs HCH Williams, 38 Fairwater Way, Fairwater, Cardiff; second, M/S Palmer & Hayward; third, Miss Bethan Emma Davies.

Class 41 One ewe – first, Miss Bethan E Davies; second, Mr & Mrs HCH Williams; third, Edward Morgan, 8 Phoenix Way, Penallta, Hengoed.

Class 42, One ewe lamb – first, Edward Morgan. second, M/S Palmer & Hayward; third, Delyth & Elin Meredith, Llyngeren Farm, Pontsticill.

Richard Evans-Bevan Perpetual challenge tankard for the best exhibit in the Black Welsh Mountain sheep classes

Champion, Miss Bethan E Davies; reserve, Mr & Mrs HCH Williams.

Class 43, Ram – first, Eifion Hughes, Frondeg, Gurrey Banc, Llandeilo; second, TR & J Harris, Redland Farm, Bonvilston; third, Christopher Cornock, Red House Farm, St Brides, Wentlooge.

Class 44, Ram lamb – first, Rhian Lewis, Wigfa Farm, Cilybebyll; second, Eifion Hughes; third, TR & J Harris.

Class 45, One ewe – first, TR & J Harris; second, Christopher Cornock; third, Rhian Lewis.

Class 46, One ewe lamb – first, Rhian Lewis; second, Eifion Hughes; third, TR & J Harris.

Championship for best exhibit in the Suffolk sheep classes

Edwards Geldard Perpetual Challenge Trophy for the best exhibit in the Suffolk Sheep classes – champion, Eifion Hughes; reserve, TR & J Harris.

Class 47, Ram – first and second, TC & RL Adams, Ty Medi, Llantrithyd; third, J & B Booker, Cae Cadno, Taliaris, Llandeilo.

Class 48, Ram lamb – first, J & B Booker; second, TC & RL Adams; third, AF Williams, 80 Dobbins Road, Barry.

Class 49, One ewe – first, TC & RL Adams; second, J & B Booker; third, AF Williams.

Class 50, One ewe lamb – first, TC & RL Adams. second and third, J & B Booker.

Mary Homfray Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best exhibit in the Texel Sheep classes – champion, TC & RL Adams; reserve, J & B Booker.

Class 51, Ram – first, Peter Lewis, Carreg Ddu, Llanellen, Abergavenny; second, Mr SJ Gilbert, Gollwy Y Haul, Brecon Road, Penscae.

Class 52, Ram lamb – first, Mr SJ Gilbert.

Class 53, One ewe – first, Mr SJ Gilbert; second, Peter Lewis; third, Mr SJ Gilbert.

Class 54, One ewe lamb – first, Mr SJ Gilbert.

Championship for best exhibit in the Ryland Sheep classes

Tom Davies 'Monkton' Memorial Perpetual Challenge Trophy for best exhibit in the Ryland Sheep classes – champion, Mr SJ Gilbert; reserve, Peter Lewis.

Class 55, Ram – first, John Harding, Ingst Hill Farm, Bristol.

Class 56, Ram lamb – first, TL Prichard, Castellau Fawr Farm, Llantrisant; second and third, Mr Justin Evans, Ty Draw Farm, St Andrews Major.

Class 57, One ewe – first, Mr Justin Evans; second, A Groucott, c/o Swffryd Farm, Hafodyrynys, Crumlin; third, TL Prichard.

Class 58, One ewe lamb – first, TL Prichard; second, Mr Justin Evans; third, TL Prichard.

Championship for best exhibit in the Continental Breed sheep classes

Champion, C & F Jantain, Ty Newydd Farm; reserve, R Llewellyn, West Farm, Wick.

Class 59, Ram – first, Michaela & Bleddyn Beck, 14 Clos Joslin, Coity; second, AT & PR Jones, High Howe Farm, Raglan; third, TR & J Harris.

Class 60, Ram lamb – first, AT & PR Jones; second, Michaela & Bleddyn Beck; third, James & Natalie Hepburn, 14 Sanctuary Court, Cardiff.

Class 61, One ewe – first, AT & PR Jones; second and third, TR & J Harris.

Class 62, One ewe lamb – first, AT & PR Jones; second, TR & J Harris; third, AF Williams.

Championship for best exhibit in the open Mixed Continental Breed, other than Texel sheep classes

Champion, Mr Justin Evans; reserve, TL Prichard.

Class 63, Ram – first, Miss H Jones, c/o Swffryd Farm, Hafodyrynys, Crumlin; second, R Llewellyn, West Farm, Wick; third, Jane Bissett, Castelfield, Moulton, Cardiff.

Class 64, Ram lamb – first, Carys & Ffion Jenkins, Tynewydd Farm, Groes Faen; second, Mr AJ Tomas, New Breach Farm, Crossways; third, Carys & Ffion Jenkins.

Class 65, One ewe – first and second, Carys & Ffion Jenkins; third, R Llewellyn.

class 66, One ewe lamb – first, R Llewellyn; second, Carys & Ffion Jenkins; third, Miss H Jones.

Championship for best exhibit in the open mixed Native Breed other than Welsh Mountain, Black Welsh Mountain, Suffolk and Ryeland Sheep classes

Champion, AT & PR Jones; reserve, Michaela and Bleddyn Beck.

Class 67, Group of three Continental Breed sheep (one male and two females) – first, TL Prichard; second, J & B Booker; third, AF Williams.

Class 68, Group of three Native breed sheep (one male and two females) – first, Miss Bethan E Davies; second, AT & PR Jones; third, Oliver Morgan, 8 Phoenix Way, Penallta, Hengoed.

Championship for best group of three sheep

RS Thomas Perpetual Challenge Cup for the champion group of three – champion, TL Prichard; reserve, Miss Bethan E Davies.

Class 69, Best ram lamb (untrimmed) – first, TL Prichard; second, Rhian Lewis, Wigfa Farm, Cilybebyll; third, Mr Justin Evans.

Class 70, novice sheep handler – first, Kate Perkins, Duffryn Isaf Farm, Bewas; second, Ian Roberts, Maesllan Farm, Blackmill; third, Tom Naylor, Ty Mawr Farm, Llangan.

Class 71, a pair of Butcher Lambs (under 35kg) – first, A Groucott; second, Rob David, Torgelly Farm, Llanharry; third, K Salter, Graig Ddu Farm, Dinas.

Class 72, a pair of Butcher Lambs (over 35kg) – first, Rob David; second, Ian Roberts; third, AF Williams.

Championship for best exhibit in the commercial sheep classes

Mrs Cameron-Rose Perpetual Challenge Bowl for the best exhibit in the Commercial Sheep classes – champion, Rob David; reserve, AF Williams.

Supreme Championship for best exhibit in any of the sheep classes

Pinkstone Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in any of the Sheep classes – champion, Miss H Jones; reserve, Justin Evans.

Class 73, Pet Lamb class, handler 16 years or under – first, Tom Naylor, ty Mawr Farm, Llangan; second, Caroline Perkins, third, Mr 7 Mrs HCH Williams.

Mrs Mary Williams Cup for the winner of the Pet Lamb classes – Kate Naylor, Ty Mawr Farm, Llangan.

Best turned-out sheep in show, prize £20 – Bethan Davies, Bryn yr Eglwys, Llanffynydd, Carm.

Class 150, Fine and medium, including Merinos, Suffolk, Ryland, Charllais Downs, Halfbred, Texel and Lleyn – first and second, D Williams, Blackmill; third, Jane Bissett, Castlefield, Moulton.

Class 151, Cross and lustre, including Mule, Greyface, Wensleydale, Lincoln and Devon – first, TR & J Harris; second, D Williams; third, TR & J Harris.

Class 152, Hill and mountain including Radnor, Beulah, Cheviot, Blackface and Welsh – first, D Williams.

Class 153, Natural coloured including Jacob, Black Welsh Mountain, Herdwick, Shetland or any other pure bred or brossbred fleece – first, D Williams DGW, Dolau, Blackmill; second, TR & J Harris; third, Jane Bissett.

BEAMING SMILES TELL IT ALL AS SUN SHINES BRIGHT ON THE VALE SHOW

Pictures on this page by MIKE WILCOCK

Smiles bright as the sun that shone on this year's successful Vale of Glamorgan Show, were captured by the photographer's camera, as VIP guests mingled with the crowds last Thursday.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN SHOW SCALES NEW HEIGHTS AT FONMON CASTLE!

Photographs by
GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

AS usual, the Vale's popular family Show was not just about the serious business of competition – there was also entertainment and lots of fun to be had on the day!

Lifeguards and helicopter rescue woman at Rest Bay

RNLI lifeguards from two Porthcawl beaches assisted a woman who got into difficulty in shallow water on Tuesday (August 16).

Lifeguards on Rest Bay were first alerted to the incident at about 3.30pm after the elderly woman was reported to be in trouble, halfway between the two lifeguarded beaches of Rest Bay and Pink Bay.

Lifeguards Lewis Evans and Lauren Blake from Rest Bay and Dan Mohammed and Tom Davies from Pink Bay, went to the woman's aid, carrying a trauma bag with a range of first aid equipment.

By the time they arrived on the scene, about 500metres from Rest Bay, the woman had been helped out of the water by a member of the public.

She was conscious and breathing, but there was concern that she had swallowed water, so lifeguards immediately called for a medical evacuation.

They administered oxygen to the woman and treated minor cuts to her legs, before the Coastguard Search and Rescue helicopter arrived to airlift her to hospital.

Also in attendance were Coastguard Rescue Teams and South Wales Police.

Matt Childs, RNLI Lifeguard Supervisor, said: 'This was a multi-agency incident and our lifeguards worked well with other emergency service teams to help this woman. We hope she has a speedy recovery.'

WHAT'S ON,WHERE, AND WHEN?

Zumba in Pyle

MICHELLE will be back to run the Zumba classes at KPC Youth in Pyle from Tuesday, August 23 at 9.30am – 10.30am.

All are welcome, with a voluntary contribution to the session.

For more information contact Alison on 01656 749219 or email: kpcyouth@hotmail.com.

Care and Repair

IF you are a home-owner, or private tenant living in the Vale of Glamorgan, are elderly, disabled, and need advice and support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale can help.

It can also offer advice on grants available and reputable companies to use.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale is holding an information session on Tuesday, August 23 at 38 Holton Road, Barry from 10am to 12 midday. No appointment is needed. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Free and impartial advice is also available on cutting energy bills, and possibly a home improvement energy grant through the Welsh Government NEST Programme.

Age Connects is holding a surgery at The Senior Health Shop on August 23 from 10am to 12pm, when you can chat to on of the NEST advisers.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information; if you need a home visit, call freephone 0808 8082244.

History exhibition

THIS year's Barry Island historical group exhibition – 'Those Were The Days' – will take place on Sunday, August 28 from 2pm – 5pm at the Barry Island Community Centre, Friars Road.

The exhibition will include photos not displayed on the group's Facebook page. The voluntary organisation provides a valuable resource for the community.

It holds thousands of photos, giving a glimpse of the lives of Barry Island residents, traders and businesses over the decades.

Entrance is free; refreshments available; and visitors can also buy next year's calendar for £5.

Boxing for LATCH

ON September 3 Llantwit Major Amateur Boxing club will hold a ticketed evening of live music by The Story Goes...; live music, followed by a disco.

The charity we are supporting this year is LATCH, a charity that supports children receiving treatment for cancer at the Children's Hospital for Wales, and their families.

More information on their work can be seen at *www.latchwales.org*

Tickets are currently available behind the bar at the rugby club; these are limited to 150,

For more information, call Karl Jones on 07738 386098.

Tory Leader slams football chiefs for missing a chance to promote women's game

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

THE development of women's football has been held back by "petty nationalism", te Welsh Conservatives have claimed.

Football Associations of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland blocked the entry of a Team GB to the women's football competition.

Welsh Conservative Leader Andrew RT Davies said moves to block entry were "unforgivable" and said they "must never happen again".

His colleague Russell George AM, the Shadow Sports Secretary, said the entry of a women's team could have inspired a new generation of girls to take up the sport.

Both have called for talks to establish agreement for a Team GB football team, competing only in future Olympic Games.

FIFA have previously given firm assurances that the status of individual nations would not be affected by such a move.

Andrew RT Davies, said: "Rio 2016 was an incredible opportunity to promote women's football on the biggest stage, and petty nationalism held back the development of the game. It's unforgivable and must never happen again.

"We've had repeated assurances that the autonomy of our national teams won't be affected, and yet we find ourselves back here once again.

"Is there a single person out there who would argue that the women's game across the UK is in such rude health that we can afford to pass up this kind of chance to build momentum, or to develop the grassroots and increase the tournament experience of our best players?

"A packed stadium watched Sweden knock the hosts out this week, with millions more watching at home, and I couldn't help but imagine what might have been.

"I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling that the absence of a Great Britain women's football team at the Olympics has been a devastating blow for the game."

Russell George, said: "Unlike men's football, the Olympic Games is on a par with the World Cup for the women's game and attracts huge interest across the globe.

"Players like Jess Fishlock have been deprived of an opportunity to get major international experience, and to represent Team GB in the way that so many other Welsh sports stars do at the Olympics."

AM celebrates with residents' board

CELEBRATING 30 years of the Gibbonsdown Residents' Board last week, were Molly Conway, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, Jane Hutt AM and Tim Reynolds. The celebration was also attended by Vale Council housing officers at the Aberaeron Close Centre where weekly activities are held, supported by volunteers.

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 700111

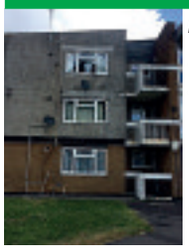
To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road
Barry CF63 4RU

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 24 AUGUST 2016

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

BUTTRILLS WALK, BARRY

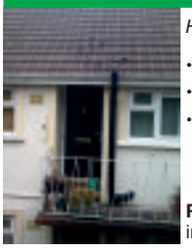


H4U Reference 203157

- Three-bedroom flat
- Second floor

Rent £98.79 per week including water charges

CATHERINE MEAZEY, PENARTH



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- Level access shower

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DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

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- Three-bedroom maisonette
- Parking
- No garden

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H4U Reference 231075

60 plus

- Two-bedroom flat
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- Sheltered accommodation

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GRAYBURN HOUSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 133467

Over 40 with medical priority

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- Second floor with lift
- Level access shower
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H4U Reference 211635

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H4U Reference 133455

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- Ground floor
- Level-access shower

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MANORBIER COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 215473

- Three-bedroom house

Rent £112.32 per week including water charges

TY FFYNNON, BARRY

H4U Reference 226678

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor

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WILLIAMS CRESCENT, BARRY

H4U Reference 228248

- Two-bedroom flat
- Second floor

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Expressions of interest

St James Road, Wick

United Welsh Housing Association, with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, announce the new development at ST James Road, Wick.

Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members with a local connection to Wick.

- Two, three-bedroom houses
  Rent £101.26 per week plus service charge to be confirmed

These homes have a downstairs toilet and a bath with overhead shower upstairs.

Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available now
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Vale of Glamorgan Council | Hafod Housing Association | Newydd Housing Association | United Welsh | Wales and West Housing Association

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

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FRONT AND REAR GARDEN,
GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING

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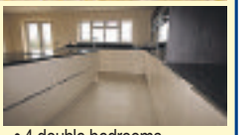

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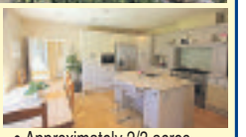

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Family Notices

ALLAN
Bruce

We are very sad to announce the passing of a wonderful husband, father and grandfather who will be greatly missed by wife Jean and daughters Jennie and Belinda. He died peacefully at home in the presence of his family on August 16.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, August 23 at 2.15pm. Family flowers only. No black attire.

BREEN
Graham John

Suddenly on August 6, Graham aged 71 years, husband of Ann and father of Marc, Dieter and Richard, father-in-law to Karen. Grandfather to Lukas, Tia, Caitlin, Cory, Holle and Miley. Much loved by his brothers, sister, cousins and families.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the Requiem Mass at St Helen's Church on Wednesday, August 24 at 2.45pm, followed by Committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

EDWARDS
David John

Suddenly on August 3 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Johnny the Milk of Llanmaes. Beloved husband of the late Eirlais, dearly loved father of Sian, father-in-law of Mike and much loved grandfather of David and Lauren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, August 19, service and cremation 1.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Cancer Research U.K. c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

BUTLER
Mavis Joan

Peacefully on August 8 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a short illness, Mavis of Llantwit Major. Beloved mother of Carol and Avril, much loved nan of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, August 22, service and cremation 3.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Dogs Trust c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

LEGG
Douglas

Sadly after a long illness on Friday, August 12, Douglas passed away. Beloved husband of Pam, best father in the world to Kevin, Janet and Jacqueline. Father-in-law to Anne, Davy and Bob. A wonderful grandfather to Marion, Robyn, Hayley and Cameron, and a great-grandfather to Lara.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major until the service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, August 26 at 3pm (where all please meet). No flowers by request please, donations if wished, can be made to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Holme Towers, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

BARRETT
Marlene

Peacefully at Milsom House on August 12, Marlene, devoted wife of Vivian (Viv), after a long illness courageously borne, affectionately remembered by all family and friends. With special thanks to Milsom House for all their kindness.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, August 26 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only, donations to Parkinson's UK, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EJ.

LEWIS
Joyce

of Newbarn, Flemingston
(11/8/29 - 15/8/16)

Peacefully in her sleep at home with her family after a long illness bravely borne, Joyce, loving mother and mother-in-law to Gerald and Maggie, will be sadly missed by all who loved her.

Private closed cremation taking place at Joyce's request, memorial service to celebrate Joyce's life to be arranged.

LAYER
Alan George

Peacefully on August 16 after a long illness, bravely fought and with his family present, Alan, aged 78 years. Beloved husband of Denise, much loved father of Sharon and Katherine and father-in-law to Grant and Craig. Loved grandfather of Jeremy, Matthew, Daniel, Jethro, his wife Rose and Michael. Also, sadly missed brother of William, Suzanne and the late Judith.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service at All Saints Church on Friday, August 26 at 1pm, followed by Committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, would be gratefully received for All Saints Church c/o the funeral director.

McCORMACK
Paul Augustine Martin

Wick; late of Ireland and Zambia

Passed away peacefully on Friday, August 12 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Treasured husband of Moira; beloved father of Joseph and Deirdre; father-in-law and dear friend of Barbara and Hugh; adored grandad of Oliver, Sean and Aisling; close brother of Tony.

Paul will be sadly missed by all family and friends. May his soul rest in peace.

Requiem Mass at St. Cadoc's Church, Cowbridge on Wednesday, August 24 at 11.30am, followed by committal at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm. Family flowers only please; donations, if desired, to The Samaritans Cymru, Floor 2, 33-35 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9HB.

MORETON
John Michael

Peacefully at Holme Tower on August 12. Loving husband to Pat. Loving father to Andrew and Susie and father-in-law to Damien.

Will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewdd Road, Barry until the service on Thursday, August 25 at Salem Baptist Church, Barry at 10am, followed by the committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry at 11am. Family flowers only by request. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie can be made at the service or forwarded to the Funeral Directors.

Acknowledgements

RENDALL
Helen and Norman

The family of the late Helen and Norman Rendall would like to thank all family and friends for their support and comfort during this sad time.

A special thanks to Churchfield's carers and all the doctors and nurses involved. Many thanks to Rev Ballantyne and A.G. Adams and Sons for organising the service and their kind and caring words.

WHITTAKER
Howard

Kate and Claire wish to thank everyone who attended Howard's funeral and who sent letters, cards, flowers and food parcels.

Thank you too for the generous donations to the Critical Care Unit at the UHW, where the staff did their best and were very supportive throughout.

MASON
Barrie James

Olga and Bradley wish to thank everyone who attended Barrie's funeral and for all the cards, flowers received and the generous donations made to Marie Curie.

Visit **The GEM** online for the latest stories and breaking news...

In Memory

FIFIELD
Frederick George

50 years ago on Saturday, 20 August 1966

On board the BP tanker 'British Crown', was killed in an explosion in the Port of Umm Said with other officers and crew.

Beloved husband of the late Hilda and wonderful father to Gordon and Julia.

We travelled many miles and you were always there.

Birth Announcement

Lyn & Dolly John
are pleased to announce the birth of their eleventh Great Grandchild

Harrison Pearce John

born on 11th August 2016
in Australia
Love to Matthew & Sarah
xxxx

Birthday

Edgar-Higgins Kiera

Happy 18th Birthday
on 21st August
to my wonderful Grand-daughter Kiera

Have a lovely day
Love you lots
Nan xx

Anniversary

Golden Wedding Anniversary!

David & Pat Harris
on August 20, 1966
St Helen's RC Church, Barry

'Celebrating 50 happy years together!'

Thank You

KEITH & JEAN POWELL

would like to say thank you very much to all who attended their Diamond wedding celebrations on 6th August 2016. Also for all the wonderful cards, gifts and money. We were overwhelmed and deeply touched. To which we have decided to donate the money to charity. £200 was kindly given, so we have decided to donate £100 to Marie Curie & £100 to Alzheimers Society.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
xxxxxxxxxx

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Unused approx 30 Concrete leaf pattern screen locks
New £4.50 each, sell for £80 ONO

Unused 3 wooden sense panels, 6ft x 6ft
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Cost £40 sell £25 ONO
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07519 731615 34DS

Electric recliner
in upholstered pale green. Good condition about 2yrs old. **£150**
Onyx (green marble) occasional table,
gold coloured frame. Diameter 37½cm, Height 76cm. **£20**
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3 Piece Suite (Green leather)
3 seater settee
2 seater settee & reclining armchair.
Excellent condition with Fire Certificate.
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All purpose aluminium box trailer.
6ft long x 3ft 10 inch wide, 4ft high. New bearings & bushes, new tyres, jockey wheel & 1 spare wheel.
£650 ono
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Adjustable 3ft Ashley bed
Electric, handset, biege with luxury foam mattress. Headboard & 2 drawers. 2 yrs old.
Cost £950 sell £450 ono

Recliner chair
Electric, handset, beige (Arthur Llewellyn Jenkins) 2 yrs old
Cost £850 sell £350 ono
(Sold separate but £700 if bought together)
07855 683699 34

Motors For Sale

FORD Street 2003 KA Luxury
Silver, 64k, lady owner, MoT March 2017, good condition.
£1,000 ono
01656 863525 33

58 REG Citroen C1 VT
Lady owner from new. Full service history. MOT Feb 2017. 33,300 Miles. V.G.C
£2,395 ono
Tel **01446 711213**
Mob **07709 611548** 34DS

Mobility Scooter

4 WHEEL KYMCO
Mobility scooter, with basket. In excellent condition, only used twice.
As new £180
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Closing date/ dyddiad cau: 1.9.2016

For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-5pm.

Am wybodaeth bellach a ffurflen gais, cysylltwch â'r Cyngor drwy'r wefan www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk neu ffoniwch Cyswllt UnFro ar 01446 700111 rhwng 8.00am a 5.00pm

valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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The number of local paid-for newspapers continues to decline. Here, we keep you up to date with the...

LATEST NEWSPAPER SALES FIGURES!

The GEM	**45,489**	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	**Priceless**
Barry & District News	**3,929**	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 50p
Penarth Times	**4,132**	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 50p
South Wales Echo	**19,158**	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 65p
Western Mail	**18,641**	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	**9,094**	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	**14,789**	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

Public Notices

OGMORE COMMON
Community of Ogmore/ Ogmore by Sea
County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has applied to the Welsh Ministers for consent under section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to carry out restricted works on Ogmore Common.

The proposed work is a single stacked stone sculpture and it will cover an area of; a three meter squared base, with the sculpture measuring 160 cm wide by 250 cm tall. The work will be located on the roadside of the B4524, 30m east of the junction to Portobello House and car park. Grid reference: 287439/ 176218.

A copy of the application form and map showing the proposed works can be inspected at the Heritage Coast Visitors Centre, Southerndown, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm weekdays (not public holidays) until the 30th September 2016. A copy of the application may be obtained by writing to:

Creative Rural Communities, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AH

Any objections or representations should be sent in writing ON or BEFORE that date to the Planning Inspectorate Wales at Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ, or Wales@pins.gsi.gov.uk. Letters sent to the Planning Inspectorate cannot be treated as confidential. They will be copied to the applicant and possibly to other interested parties.

Nicola Sumner-Smith (Senior Rural Regeneration Officer), Creative Rural Communities, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AH

TIR COMIN OGWR
Cymuned Ogwr/ Aberogwr
Bwrdeistref Sirol Bro Morgannwg

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi cyflwyno cais i Weinidogion Cymru i gael caniatâd dan adran 38 o Ddeddf Tiroedd Comin 2006 i ymgymryd â gwaith cyfyngedig ar Dir Comin Ogwr.

Mae'r gwaith arfaethedig yn cynnwys cerflun cerrig wedi'u stacio a bydd ganddo waelod fydd yn mesur tri medr sgwâr, a'r cerflun ei hun yn mesur 160cm o led a 250cm o uchder. Lleolir y gwaith ar ochr ffordd y B4524, 30m tua'r dwyrain o'r gyffordd i Portobello House a'r maes parcio. Cyfeirnod grid: 287439/ 176218.

Gellir archwilio copi o'r ffurflen gais a map yn dangos y gwaith arfaethedig yng Nghanolfan Ymwelwyr yr Arfordir Treftadaeth, Southerndown, rhwng 10.00am a 4.00pm yn ystod yr wythnos (ac eithrio gwyliau banc) tan 30 Medi 2016. Gellir cael copi o'r cais drwy anfon llythyr at:

Cymunedau Gwledig Creadigol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Old Hall, Stryd Fawr, Y Bont-faen CF71 7AH

Dylid anfon unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau yn ysgrifenedig AR neu CYN y dyddiad hwnnw i Arolygiaeth Gynllunio Cymru yn Adeiladau'r Goron, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ neu Wales@pins.gsi.gov.uk. Ni ellid trin llythyrau a anfonir at yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio yn gyfrinachol. Byddant yn cael eu copïo i'r ymgeisydd ac i'r partïon eraill â diddordeb o bosib

Nicola Sumner-Smith (Uwch Swyddog Adfywio Gwledig), Cymunedau Gwledig Creadigol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Old Hall, Stryd Fawr, Y Bont-faen CF71 7AH

Public Notice

THE OLD SWAN INN

is recruiting for a Head Chef for the opening of its new restaurant area, following an extensive refurbishment. Candidates must have proven experience in all areas of kitchen control, disciplines and menu planning. A passionate, competent and innovative approach to cooking skills will be rewarded with competitive salary rates.

Apply to sean@knifeandforkfood.co.uk

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JOYCE MARGARET ROBINSON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the abovementioned deceased, late of 30 Castle Drive Dinas Powys Vale of Glamorgan CF64 4NP, who died on 17/01/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 28/10/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

NEWBOLD SOLICITORS
118 High Street Barry CF62 7DT

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016

GORCHYMYN (PAGET ROAD (RHAN), YNYS Y BARRI)) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO)

Hysbysir drwy hyn fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn bwriadu, mewn dim llai na saith diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, yn gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw un yn cerdded yn y lleoedd a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad Yr ardal a fydd ar gau yw Paget Road, Ynys y Barri o'r gyffordd â'r ffordd fynediad sy'n arwain i mewn i faes parcio Ynys y Barri (yn gyfagos at Clive Road) wrth grid 311262 166786 ac yn parhau tua'r de-ddwyrain i'r gyffordd â Harbour Road, sydd oddeutu 140m i ffwrdd.

Rheswm Er lles diogelwch y cyhoedd i alluogi gwaith gwella ar y gyffordd. Mae angen y cyfyngiad hwn oherwydd anawsterau peirianneg.

Hyd: O 8am ar 20 Awst 2016 am hyd at 18 mis

Llwybr Amgen: Bydd gwyriadau gydag arwyddion mewn grym ar hyd Plymouth Road, Friars Road, Breaksea Drive a Station Approach Road ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

D.S.: Caniateir mynediad i gerddwyr drwy'r amser.

Dyddiedig 18 Awst 2016

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(PAGET ROAD, BARRY ISLAND (PART)) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location The area to be closed is Paget Road, Barry Island from its junction with the access road that leads into Barry island car park (adjacent to Clive Road) at grid 311262 166786 and continuing in a south easterly direction to its junction with Harbour Road, a distance of approximately 140m.

Reason: In the interests of public safety to allow for junction improvement work to take place. This restriction is required due to engineering difficulties.

Duration: From 8am on 20th August 2016 for a maximum period of 18 months.

Alt. Route: Signed diversions shall be in operation via Plymouth Road, Friars Road, Breaksea Drive and Station Approach Road and vice versa.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 18th day of August 2016

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps Depot, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Property

Brynteg Cottage, Treoes, Vale of Glamorgan, CF35 5DL.
£164,950

- Stone built extended semi-detached cottage.
- Entrance Hall. Spacious Lounge/Dining Room. Kitchen. Rear Hall/Utility Room.
- Spacious Ground Floor Bathroom.
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- Gravelled Forecourt and Rear Garden.
- Freehold. No Chain.

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90 CELEBRATING 90 YEARS

Barry Town start season with a win

ABOVE: Action from the game and RIGHT: TJ Nagi.

BARRY Town United set out their stall for 2016-17 on the weekend with a comfortable 2-0 win over newcomers Undy Athletic at Jenner Park.

Goals from Drew Fahiya and newcomer Tyrell Webbe secured the spoils, with manager Gavin Chesterfield handing competitive debuts to a handful of summer signings, including former Aberystwyth Town goalkeeper Mike Lewis.

The Gwent-based visitors impressed on their Welsh League Division One bow, but would leave the Vale of Glamorgan empty-handed, as Barry headed up a cluster of eight clubs to win on the opening Saturday.

Among their number were promoted outfit Cwmbran Celtic, who avenged their 2015-16 Welsh Cup quarter-final defeat with a 2-0 win over a demoted and demoralised Port Talbot Town.

Elsewhere in the division, last season's third-placed side Goytre were winners of a seven-goal thriller at Caldicot Town, while Division One mainstays Ton Pentre beat Penybont by three goals to two.

Penybont's Bryntirion Park will be the destination for Barry this Saturday, as Chesterfield's replenished Town tackle a home team under the management of former Llanelli hotshot and Plymouth Argyle striker Rhys Griffiths (2.30pm kick-off). **AC**

Barry RFC set for new season in new kit!

BARRY rugby players will soon be sporting brand new kit, thanks to a £1,000 donation from Persimmon Homes, as part of its Community Champions scheme.

Barry RFC, now 129 years old, boasts teams from under-six age group to senior level, as well as a ladies side, and relies on outside support to keep running.

Jonathan Venners, club funding co-ordinator, said: "Barry RFC is a very successful club which develops young men and women in the town, creating a community spirit and a sense of identity. Lifelong friendships have been nurtured at the club.

"On a Sunday morning you will see some 220 children of all ages improving their skills. At senior level, we have just completed our first year in Division Two after gaining promotion in 2014/15.

"All of this comes at a high financial cost. We are extremely grateful to Persimmon Homes East Wales for this donation for new kit, which will help to continue to maintain the players' identity and sense of belonging.

"It's so refreshing to see big businesses getting involved with grassroots sport."

Victoria Williams, Persimmon sales director, said: "We're pleased to be able to hand over this money to Barry RFC, a major sports club in the area which we know is well used and well appreciated. So many volunteers put in a lot of hard work to keep these amateur clubs afloat. We're pleased to be able to be in a position to help out."

Five wins out of five for Jason Sillet

LOCAL boxer Jason Sillet has won his fifth fight out of five.

Jason travelled to Manchester last weekend to take on Joe Beeden from Swindon and won unanimously on points.

He almost stopped Joe in the last round but he was saved by the bell. Jason would like to thank world champion Lee Selby and all his supporters who travelled to Manchester, and his sponsors - Ewe Move Estate Agents, Coastal Coffee, Royal Cafe, Cofe Cove, Vinylize Garment Printers and also Paul Carousel Amusements and Nino Spiteri. **JS**

Kayak4MND's daunting challenge in aid of charity

ON August 26, 40 fundraisers head to north Wales for a daunting charity challenge – kayaking across the three largest lakes in the UK and completing a marathon 26-mile walk – all in four days – to raise awareness for the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

They will kayak across Bala Lake and back; walk the 26 miles from Llandudno to Prestatyn; kayak 11 miles across Lake Windermere and then travel up to Scotland to kayak the 25 miles of Loch Awe.

'Kayak4MND' is a team of 35 novice kayakers and five support people, both local and from across south Wales. All participants are incurring personal expense and have spent a lot of time training to prepare for the challenge.

The team's fundraising efforts will help support people living with Motor Neurone Disease in south Wales and they have already raised more than £14,000.

Challenge organiser Justin Hostettler-Davies said: "The team is obviously apprehensive of the challenge ahead but is fully determined and motivated. Most of us had never been in a kayak prior to this, but we all share the same objective – to raise as much awareness and sponsorship as possible."

Anyone wanting to support Kayak4MND should visit their JustGiving page at: www.justgiving.com/kayaking4MND/ or text donate KAYK88 £5 to 70070.

Ground Hoppers are heading to the Vale!

THE Ground Hoppers U.K organization have targeted the South Wales Alliance League for this year's 'August Bank Holiday Hop'.

They will take in no less than 11 games between the Friday and the Bank Holiday Monday on August 29! While Sully will be among the venues they visit, the very last game of the hop will take place at Bryn-Y-Don, the home of Cadoxton Barry F.C. when they entertain close neighbours, Cogan Coronation in a 5pm Monday start.

A large crowd, which will include around 150 ground hoppers from all over the UK, is expected. Match programmes, refreshments, lapel badges, club tops, a programme collectors stall and much more will be found at Bryn-Y-Don on this very special match day.

Last season's record ground hop attendance was around the 430 mark for a match that took place in Scotland, so Cadoxton Barry are hoping to beat this.

There will be an entry charge of £3 for all adults, though all children will be admitted free of charges, so come on and help make the town of Barry proud ground hop record holders. **NW**

Sully Sports begin training

THERE are just a few weeks to the start of the new season, and arrangements are well in hand at Sully Sports RFC, with good numbers training under coaches Chris and Barry on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:.30pm at the Sully Grounds.

With a full fixture list for both first and second XVs, it is important to have as large a squad as possible, and so everyone is invited along – new, old players or those interested in taking up the game.

Friendly games are due to be held on August 20 and August 27. Full details at training.

Our next reunion will be a barbecue at the Sully Club, on Friday, September 9, starting at 7.30pm.

Any players/members will be most welcome, with a special invitation going out to all the current players who by then will have started the new season.

The event will be part of the memorial to Tom, who tragically died recently. **MJS**

For the latest stories and breaking news, follow The GEM on Twitter... @gem_news & @sports_gem

Sports and play fun day a great success

MORE than 500 people enjoyed a range of sports and play activities at the Vale Council's 'Sports & Play Family Fun Day' which was recently held on Kings Square and in Central Park.

During the event, children, young people and families were able to try out the various sports and activities on offer including athletics, table tennis, basketball, volleyball, golf, football skills and tennis.

They were also able try badminton with coaches from Badminton Wales and try out the squash wall, supervised by a Squash Wales coach.

There were also a variety of play activities which were supervised by the Vale Council's play workers which included badge making, clay modelling, giant outdoor games, small worlds play and a home-made 'photo booth' for people were able to take their own selfies.

The start of the Olympic and Paralympic Games provided an added motivation for the children to participate in both the sports and play activities.

They were awarded a sticker for each activity they participated in and when they had collected five, they were able to claim a medal and certificate to celebrate their participation.

The children were delighted and very proud to receive their medals of achievement.

All participants also received a sports club directory compiled by the sports and play development team to highlight the range of sports opportunities available across the Vale.

With the Olympic Games currently taking place and the Paralympic Games due to start shortly, it is hoped that more people from the Vale will be inspired to join a local club, offering opportunities in more than 30 Olympic and Paralympic sporting events including boccia, archery, swimming, badminton, boxing, gymnastics (both rhythmic and artistic), hockey, judo, rugby and table tennis.

To find out more information regarding opportunities for sport, play or both that are available in the Vale of Glamorgan, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay. Alternatively, readers can contact the sports and play development team on 01446 704793, or e-mail KJDavies@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

New Vale tennis league launched

VALE residents have a great opportunity to play friendly, competitive tennis matches in the new Barry & Vale Tennis League, whether they are member of a tennis club or not.

Open to men and women aged 18 and above, the league is for players of all standards.

Players are organised into groups of six to eight people of a similar level and can arrange their own matches at a mutually convenient time over an eight week round.

Entry costs £15 per round and each player has between five and seven matches to play per round. Players may use any public court that suits them both.

With no annual membership to worry about, it's an affordable way to play friendly, competitive tennis.

After the match, players submit results via their phone or online and can see all the other results and match commentaries in their groups.

There are prizes for the winners of each group and players who complete three matches by the midway point of a round get a free can of tennis balls.

If you are not a member of a tennis club, it can be surprisingly hard to compete at an informal local level or even to find other people to play.

The new league is thanks to a partnership between the Vale Council's sports and play development team and parks department, Tennis Wales and Local Tennis Leagues, who lead on the organisation of the leagues.

Round one of the Barry & the Vale Tennis League runs from Thursday, September 22 to Wednesday, November 16. You can enter the league online, by visiting www.localtennisleagues.com/barry; all entries must be received by Monday, September 19.

For more information, e m a i l info+barry@localtennisleagues.com or contact the sports and play development team on 01446 704793.

Cadoxton Bowls Club round-up

CADOXTON could not find the answer to the difference, between their heavy green and the good playing surface at Barry Athletic.

As a result, only one rink managed to come to terms. The successful rink was skipped by Derek Jeffries against David Snelling, who was assisted by two former Cadoxton players.

After eight ends the visitors held a 15-1 advantage, but only managed to score four more shots, while 15 were scored by the home side.

Howard Craven was matched with opposing skip Geoff Whittaker, and dropped 11 shots without reply during the opening seven ends. The remaining ends did not get much better, with just five singles scored.

Don Kuhnell did take an early lead on his rink against the experienced Richard Morgan, assisted by another ex-Cadoxton player, Paul Webley.

They were successful with three singles with one against, in the opening stages. However, in a game with all ends closely contested, only three further singles were possible, although the losing ends were mainly kept to singles.

John Jones skipped the other rink against Peter Rogers and stayed in contention until the 13th end when they held a 12-10 advantage.

Unfortunately no further wins were added and the defeat was accentuated with a '5' and '3' to finish.

Scores: W Craven, D Hammond, I Robertson, H Craven 5-20 D Townsend, D Coombes, J Davies, G Whittaker; A Prince, G Solomon, G Davies, D Jeffries 19-16 T Bishop, L Paige, G Jones, D Snelling; E Heppenstall, J Pappoutsou, I Heppenstall, J Jones 12-23 G Gane, DL Jones, M Vaughan, P Rogers; J Stacey, D Fanning, R Byrne, D Kuhnell 6-16 A Cooper, J Donovan, P Webley, R Bowen. Final score: 42-75.

CADOXTON V CENTRAL – ML7 Cadoxton visited Barry Central in a ML7 fixture and despite losing on three rinks, the fourth rink had a large enough winning advantage to take the aggregate score.

The successful rink was skipped by Derek Jeffries against opposing skip Ken Tanner. A '5' on the sixth end gave the visitors an 8-2 lead and with regular winning ends progressed to 16-6.

At this stage, one of the Central players left the match due to illness and they continued with three players still playing with eight bowls. This reduced their score by one shot (25 per cent of the score during the remaining ends).

Howard Craven skipped against Tom Goddard and trailed 10-2 after six ends. However an improvement during the rest of the game brought the score to 18-16 in favour of the home side.

Rob Byrne's rink finished against Dave Goddard with the same two shot defeat, after leading 10-1 after seven ends.

Roy Harding's rink only managed to score on seven ends, to finish with a deficit of 12 shots

Scores: W Craven, D Hammond, I Robertson, H Craven 16-18 E Hands, A Castle, G Coldthorpe, T Goddard; G Davies, J Papoutsou, I Heppenstall, D Jeffries 27-9 R Pierce, G Thomas, T Kaged, K Tanner; E Heppenstall, G Solomon, M Curtis, R Byrne 18-17 D Hunt, J Froud, J Wathes, G Goddard; R Morris, S Conway, J Jones, R Harding 9-21 M Hoare, B Parker, G Carstairs, S Downer. Final score: 70-65.

DK

Penarth Belle Vue Bowling Club news

PENARTH Belle Vue Bowling Club played Ynysybwl Bowling Club on Saturday, August 13 in the Cardiff and District League.

Belle Vue had a good ten point win at Ynysybwl, winning two rinks and losing two after score adjustment, 76¾ to 66 shots.

Rink one, with only three players, lost after the score was adjusted 13 to 12¾ shots. Lead was Rowland Fletcher, No 2 was Richard Brant and the skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink two won 22-14; lead was Richard Fitzjohn, No 2 was Dave Rappit, No 3 was Dave Miller and the skip was captain Malcolm Thomas.

Rink three won 22-17; lead was Frank Keen, No 2 was Graham Duggan, No 3 was Len Fowler and the skip Paul Paterson.

Rink four lost 20-22; lead was Gerry Field, No 2 was Paul Booth, No 3 was Barrie Bagwell and the skip was Dave Purser.

Ynysybwl players were a great set of lads and all in all, a great day out was had. The buffet was top drawer; plenty of everything! Thank you, Ynysybwl.

Belle Vue played Barry Athletic Bowling Club in the Alun Martin Cup semi final at Windsor Bowling Club recently.

Both rinks went down against a very strong Barry Athletic, but both rinks did their best on a lovely sunny afternoon.

Rink one lost 25-11 lead was Richard Fitzjohn, No 2 was Gerry Field, No9 3 was Dave Miller and the skip was captain Malcolm Thomas.

Rink two lost 27-14; lead was Rowland Fletcher, No 2 was Graham Duggan, No 3 was Colin Scammell and the skip was Trevor Ford. Well done for getting to the semi finals, lads.

One final note of thanks goes to our chairman's daughter who had a sponsored head shave and raised £40 when we played Ely Bowling Club. She has raised a total of £400 for Macmillan Cancer Support. A big thank you to Dave Purser and his family for their effort.

FRANK KEEN

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for August 18:

1st Mike Pownell & Mia Deschepper 67.92%, 2nd Peter Goodman & BJ O'Brien 61.25%, 3rd Miriam Handren & Helen Houston 59.38%.

LE

Friendly day of bowls helps out association

SUNDAY afternoon overcast and not very welcoming saw the Millwood Bowls Club captains Sandra Jodrell and Alan Evans welcome members and their guests to the club to enjoy an afternoon of social bowls away from the pressures of league and cup matches.

The ladies, with their usual enthusiasm, organised a highly successful raffle and bric a brac stall.

With the weather starting to improve members took to the green to take part in a mixed spoons competition played over 15 ends with a small prize for the winning rink; at the finish the Alan Bumford-skipped rink stepped up to claim their prize.

The afternoon also has a more serious but happier purpose when the club presents a cheque to its charity of the year.

This year, as many of you will know, the club had the honour of hosting the British Deaf Bowls home internationals and as a result of this the club chose the Welsh Deaf Bowls Association.

The club members were therefore extremely proud to invite their representative Michelle Fowler-Powe to accept from Sandra and Alan a cheque for £1000 raised by members through their various fundraising activities.

Michelle thanked the club for the cheque and also all the assistance the club and its members had given the association in helping the first Deaf International weekend be the success it was.

Thanks are also given to local deaf signer Sue Williams for her assistance.

On a very blustery unseasonable evening Millwood made the short journey to Sully for a Munro Cup game.

Despite the weather the green was running well so no excuses on that front, although hypothermia might play a part in the latter stages of the game.

Both teams got stuck in and after five ends Millwood had a narrow four shot lead, 17-13; this narrow advantage was maintained and at the 10th end the score was 32-28 to the visitors.

This nip and tuck game continued on three of the four rinks, however on rink 2 sprightly Sully veteran Denis Evans and his rink got their game together and at the end of 12 ends Sully had now got their noses in front, 50-41.

With this lead not threatened over the last four ends, Sully ran out worth winners, 63-52, when all players were only to happy to repair to the club for well earned refreshments.

On Saturday Millwood club side entertained Blaenrhondda in a Division 4 league match.

For various reasons the visitors were not able to field as strong a team as they would have wanted to.

The game got underway and after five ends the home side had built a comfortable lead of 23-11.

After another five ends the lead had increased to 45-25, but the visitors, to give them full credit, did not give up and fought back bravely to eventually come out on top on two rinks.

However Millwood ran out comfortable winners, being heavily indebted to Peter Taylor's rink who crushed their opponents 30-7, confirming a 82-59 victory

The Millwood A side played a friendly at Rumney which we hope will stand them in good stead when they return in two weeks time for a Division 7 league match.

BH

Barry face friendly test

BARRY RFC kick off their 2016-17 season with the first of two warm-up games beginning this Saturday with a game against Division 2 East side Croesyceiliog at home, kick off 2.30pm.

This will be followed on August 27 when the club pay a return visit to Lydney where they enjoyed superb hospitality last year.

The club have hired an 80 seater coach to leave the club at 12 noon so come along and enjoy a good day out.

Last week's Lottery numbers were 04, 07, 13 and 18, which once again failed to produce a winner; this week's jackpot will be £2,390.

AJ

Pasties inspire A team to victory!

LAST Thursday saw Llantwit A bowls team gain their first home win in the Rockwool Triples League; the opponents were Wyndham.

Captain John Nixon's rink of Ian Williamson and Cen Williams won 21-13; Mike Harmon's rink of Geoff Timms and John Crane narrowly lost.

John O'Brien's rink of Ken Williams and Glyn Fox, with a combined age of 242, proved that age is no barrier, by beating an opposition rink with an average age of 25 by 17-12.

Kyle Garrison's rink of Dave Thomas and John Ball had a comfortable win 22-9, with the overall score 75-54. The captain changed the normal post-match food to pasties and this incentive appeared to produce success!

Saturday saw another milestone with a first win in the Cardiff Municipal League, again at home, the opponents this time Caerphilly Social.

The game was played in summer sunshine and Mike Harmon's rink of Cen Williams, Lyn Fry and Dave Post won by 19-8.25; John O'Brien's rink of Geoff Timms, John Moisan and Pat Twomey just missed out.

Graham Merchant's rink of Dave Thomas, Danny Morgan and Dave Post had a bit of an off day, John Nixon's rink of Ken Williams, Paul Brown and Graham Snowdon won by 30-7.75, the overall match score 82-79.75.

An enjoyable day was rounded off by the always excellent post-match buffet prepared by the ladies.

PB

Flint strikes a diamond!

THE Vale's John Flint, who has been in terrific form of late, struck again at Chepstow Racecourse on Tuesday when his five-year-old bay mare *Prim And Proper* landed The Diamond Racing Handicap Stakes.

Partnered by 3lbs claimer Daniel Muscutt, *Prim And Proper* an 8-1 chance, ran a cracker of a race to score by three parts of a length from *Stanlow*.

Prim And Proper, a course and distance winner when trained by Ebbw Vale's Dai Burchell last season, is owned by Mr and Mrs AJ Mutch, and was having its fourth start for the in-form Flint.

BRIAN LEE

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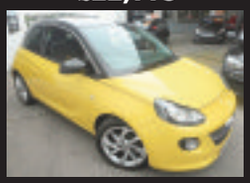

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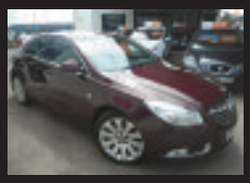

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62 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 Diesel SE Nav Automatic In very berry with black trim, 57,000 miles **£8,995**

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12 NISSAN Juke 1.6 DIG-T Acenta Premium In met-grey, 32,000 miles, Sat-Nav, Reverse-Camera **£8,995**

12 PEUGEOT 508 Allure 2.0 Diesel In Iseo Blue, 47,000 miles with Bluetooth, heated seats etc..**£8,995**

12 MINI Cooper 1.6 In white silver with black roof, 23,000 miles. Very nice example **£8,995**

14 RENAULT Clio Dynamique MEDIA NAV ENERGY DCi 1.5 In Silver with Bluetooth, sat nav, alloys etc, free road tax, only 39,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,695**

13 CITROEN DS3 Style 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback In white, 23,000 miles, alloys, cruise control etc **£8,495**

10 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sport 5-Dr In black, 82,000 miles, £30 road tax, Fantastic value **£7,995**

11 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 SE Convertible In shark grey, 24,000 miles, superb value at **£7,995**

62 VW Polo 1.2 Match 5-Dr. In black, 26,000 miles with alloys, bluetooth etc. **£7,995**

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61 SKODA Fabia 1.2 TDi Greenlink 5-Dr In red, 51,000 miles, 1 owner, "Free road tax"....**£5,495**

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58 SKODA Fabia 2 HTP 1.2 5-Dr. Met Grey, 50,000 miles, nice example.... **£3,795**

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09 HYUNDAI i10 Comfort 1.2 5-Dr In red, 35,000 miles, £30 road tax.... **£3,495**

09 FORD Ka 1.2 Style (New Shape) In silver, 51,000 miles, £30 road tax ....**REDUCED TO £3,495**

59 HYUNDAI i10 Edition 1.1 5-Dr In grey, alloys, C/D, A/C, E/W, £30 road tax **£3,495**

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On and Off The Turf

ACCLAIMED turf historian Michael Tanner is known for his many best-selling books such as *The Champion Hurdle, The Legend Of Mick The Miller, The Major: The Biography of Dick Hern, Great Jockeys of the Flat* and many more.

Now following his definitive account of *The Suffragette Derby*, a work that was described as "the book of the year"'by the Racing Post and "as good as any Dick Francis novel" by The Mail on Sunday, his new book *Red Hand – Secret of the Suffragette Derby,* published by (*www.authorhouse.co.uk* at £12.99), weaves a fictional tale around the Suffragette Derby featuring the popular characters Alg Haymer and Connie Swynford, who he introduced in his Victorian racing novel *The Tinman's Farewell*.

I have always been a great admirer of Michael's work, ever since I bought a copy of his *My Friend Spanish Steps* for a £1 in a second-hand bookshop in Devon in the 1980s.

Michael is one of those rare authors who can mix fact with fiction and in *Red Hand* he does just that and the result is a cracking good read.

VAUGHAN HAS PLENTY TO SMILE ABOUT

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan had plenty to smile about last week.

His *Canton Prince,* a five-year-old bay gelding, won the Open National Hunt Flat Race (Bumper) at Newton Abbot with champion jockey Richard Johnson in the saddle and his *Show's Over*, partnered by Tom O'Brien, won the 24 August Is Bo's Music Night Novices' Handicap Chase at Stratford by the minimum distance a nose at odds of 8-1.

Canton Prince, the 2-1 favourite, won by 12 lengths from *Make My Heart*.

CHEPSTOW BANK HOLIDAY FUN RACEDAY

Monday, August 29 is Chepstow's bank holiday family fun race day.

There is free admission and entertainment for children.

This year, Chepstow Racecourse celebrates its 90th birthday and when racing started at the Piercefield Park Racecourse in 1926, more than 20,000 racegoers witnessed Lord Harewood's *Conca D'Oro*, ridden by Henri Jellis and trained by Basil Jarvis, win the opening St Lawrence Selling Plate.

The following year, in 1927, 300 rain-soaked racegoers turned up in Tattersalls enclosure for the first National Hunt fixture and the first Welsh Derby that year was won by *Chantrey*, ridden by Henri Jellis and trained by Alex Taylor.

It was in 1933 that Gordon Richards set a world record at the racecourse when winning 11 consecutive races at the two-day meeting – all six on the first day and the first five winners on the second day.

The first Welsh Grand National at Chepstow in 1949 was won by Welshman Dick Francis on *Fighting Line*.

TIM'S MIXED LUCK

Tim Vaughan had mixed fortune at Market Rasen on Saturday evening.

In the Dennis Meech 'Magic Moments' Memorial Handicap Chase, his *Caspian Piper* was beaten by just a head in a photo finish by *Proud Gamble*.

However, just over an hour later his six-year-old *Beat The Tide*, a 9-2 chance, finished a length ahead of the favourite *PixiePot* in the Millie Murray Happy Birthday Handicap Hurdle.

Champion jockey Richard Johnson was aboard both of Tim's horses and earlier in the evening he had been successful on the favourite *Birch Hill* in a novices' hurdle.

BRIAN LEE

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Sam Roberts (wearing the number 5 vest) with the team.

Vale's Sam stars for the Welsh basketball team

A former University of Worcester student from the Vale helped Wales to seventh place in a major international tournament.

Sam Roberts, who has just finished his degree, competed for the Wales senior men's basketball team at the FIBA (International Basketball Federation) European Championship for Small Countries.

He was joined by fellow former University of Worcester students Ben Potts and Damian Edwards.

The Welsh side faced Armenia, who won the contest, Andorra, who finished second, Moldova, Malta and Gibraltar.

Sam, of Cowbridge, has just finished a three-year course in sports studies and this was his first time in the Welsh men's side, having played for the under-16s and under-18s.

"It was a hard tournament for us," said the 20-year-old. "The standard of play in Britain is not at the level of Europe so for us to adapt to that intense play was difficult."

"For me I learned a lot. I have gained more confidence to bring back to the UK by playing against such high quality opposition."

Sam, who played in the University's second team and Worcester Wolves national league division two side, is now focused on selection to take part in the Commonwealth Games in Australia in two years' time.

Ceri continues his golfing progress!

AFTER winning Radyr Golf Club's captain's day prize alongside his father two weeks ago, and finishing only two shots behind the winner at the Pyle and Kenfig Junior Open recently, Ceri Vaughan Jones (14) continued his rich vein of form this season by capturing the Southerndown Junior Open with a magnificent score of 79 gross over the difficult windswept course last week.

Ceri Vaughn Jones and John Hastings

His latest success has catapuled him close to the top of the Glamorganshire under-14s Order of Merit with two events remaining this year and will bring his handicap down to 12.

Even with a triple bogey seven due to a lost ball on the formidable 18th hole, his score was enough to secure top spot and confirmed his steady progress under the tutelage of golf professional John Hastings, who runs the Natural Golf Academy at St Andrew's Major Golf Club.

"Ceri's aptitude for the game was evident from a very early age but his equally impressive mental game is also one of his strengths," said John.

"His ability to never let a bad shot unsettle him gives him an edge over his fellow competitors."

A regular in the Glamorganshire under-14's county team, Ceri who lives in Llantrithyd, near Cowbridge, is also a member at Radyr Golf Club and has now set his sights on a single figure handicap, a goal both he and coach John set themselves at the beginning of the year.

JH

Point-to-Point Blast From the Past – 2004

This week The GEM's Brian Lee, who has been reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene for the past 50 years, looks back at a couple of meetings he reported on for The GEM.

The headline on page 12 of The GEM, March 18, 2004 read: 'Gift horse Rostock is a winner for Brace'.

'BRIDGEND'S David Brace, who will be at the Cheltenham National Hunt Festival today to saddle his *Dawn's Cognac* in the Foxhunter's Chase, saw his gift horse *Rostock* land a division of the maiden race at the Brecon & Talybont point-to-point last Saturday.

'Rostock, a seven-year-old brown gelding was given to him by Irishman Jimmy Mangan, who trained last year's Grand National winner *Monty's Pass*.

'Mr Brace, who has bought many horses from Mr Mangan over the years, said: "Jimmy couldn't do anything with *Rostock,* so he gave him to me to have a go."

'Rostock, brilliantly ridden by the Vale's Fiona Wilson, got home by half a length from the favourite *Rescindo*, ridden by William Oakes in an exciting finish.

'Both horses are qualified with the Llangeinor Hunt.

'Llancarfan's Evan Williams took the confined race on Paul Morgan's *Mensch* who got up on the run-in to beat *Noaff*. The winner is also qualified with the Llangeinor. The Land Rover Men's Open race was won by *Tic Tac*, which beat the fast-finishing *Royal Barge* by half a length.

Tic Tac, a winner in France, was ridden by Paul Shelldrake and is owned by Ian Johnson and Gary Flynn.

The odds-on favourite *Dat My Horse* unshipped Evan Williams at the first fence. The horse's owner Andrew Lowrie said: "My horse has had trouble with his back and he just doesn't want to know the bigger obstacles, so it's back to hurdles races for him."

'Dai Jones had a double with *Call Me Sonie* (members) and *Cannon Bridge* (restricted open division one). *Vicars Chalet*, a 20-1 chance, was a surprise winner of the third division under Adrian Wintle.

'And 53-year-old Joe Price was successful on *Musical Sleuth* (maiden division one) who was a first winner for trainer Sarah Kent, secretary of the Curre & Llangibby point-to-point. *Musical Sleuth* is owned by Charlotte Breeze and Sue Anstey.'

Under the heading 'Tim Rides Winner At Ystradowen' (GEM April 8, 2004) I reported: 'Tim 'Smiler' Vaughan from Laleston landed the aged maiden race at the rain-soaked Glamorgan point-to-point steeplechases at Ystradowen on Saturday on *Aljoash*, an eight-year-old bay mare, trained by John Moore at Bridgend.

'Talented Tim, who always has a smile on his face, rode a confident race and, taking the lead two fences from the finish, won by 15 lengths from the pacemaking *Blakeney Hill*.

'Aljoash, who also won the best turned-out award, is owned by Swansea hairdresser Robert Scrine.

'Mister Falcon, a seven-year-old bay gelding ridden by Rhys Hughes of Caerphilly swooped to victory in the men's open race. There were only three runners and *Mister Falcon*, a former Martin Pipe horse which cost his owner Mike Quinlin 2,000 guineas, won by eight lengths from *Fassan*, ridden by James Tudor with *Asicionado*, partnered by Howard Oakes, a further length away in third spot.

'In the ladies' open race, Pembrokeshire's Charlotte Owen, riding family horse *De Chelly*, caused something of a surprise when holding on by a length from the odds-on favourite *Upton Adventure*, already a winner of four races this season.

'Dr Simon Cave's *Tinder Boy*, who travelled from Dorset, took the restricted open under his daughter Tabitha Cave. She said: "*Tinder Boy* is not the bravest of jumpers but the twisty undulating course, although it wouldn't suit most horses, suited him."

'*Pharailde*, which took the young horse maiden, is owned by Cardiff's Lee Alder who is totally blind.

'Mr Alder said: "I was worried when the commentator kept saying my horse was making mistakes throughout the race."

'Ex-hurdler *Pharailde* was ridden by evergreen Joe Price and is trained at Chepstow by Sarah Steniford. Both the winning owner and trainer were enjoying their first success.

'The novice riders' race was won by Hannah Lewis on the odds-on favourite *Silver Pot Black*.'

Readers can e-mail horse racing stories or pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone him on 02920 736438.

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Cowbridge firsts consign Maesteg CC to defeat

THE great Maesteg, Wales and British Lions' scrum half Chico Hopkins once memorably described his home town as a 'veritable paradise'.

Last Saturday, the Maesteg Celtic first XI travelled from their home patch to The Athletic Ground. Whatever the beauties of the former mining town, the Cowbridge ground looked at its most splendid.

With Tim Williams' striped outfield, an excellent pitch and the club flag fluttering in the gentle breeze, the surroundings were the perfect background to a glorious afternoon.

Presumably the Maesteg team felt at home in these verdant haunts but after suffering a 129-run defeat perhaps they began to view the delights of Cowbridge rather differently.

Earlier in the season Cowbridge had visited Maesteg Celtic as the bottom side of Division One of the South Wales Cricket Association.

Yet it turned out to be this away match at Cowbridge's first XI began to turn things around. Having conceded a massive total the lads fought back strongly to claim a creditable draw and it's been a very different story since.

A scrap at Bronwydd gave Cowbridge her first win and victories followed, five in eight matches, plus a dominant winning draw.

Included in this run were 10-wicket thrashes of Gowerton and Briton Ferry Steel, who now lie third and fourth, as well as Saturday's massive triumph.

Indeed during the past eight weeks Cowbridge have been at least the second best side in the division.

The match on Saturday had little riding upon it for Cowbridge save the desire to win for its own sake, Chris Willey's men being safe in securing Division One status for next season.

On losing the toss, Cowbridge were invited to bat first but the wisdom of this decision by the Maesteg skipper was rather questionable with Ben Wright and Tom Merilaht opening up.

To suggest it might not have been his best ever call was given some substance as the pair put on 111 in quick time.

Ben was on 73 when he fell but Tom (34) and then the middle order of Michael Lloyd (25), Chris Willey (27), Adam Wood (31no), Jack Harris (9) and Ed Lewis (15no) led the charge to a total of 226-5.

Given the way Maesteg Celtic have been batting recently it seemed that score was a decent total.

When it came to the visitors' innings it really was a capitulation.

Three early lbw decisions reduced Maesteg to 51-3 and from that point resistance totally fell apart.

Tom Merilaht took 4-12 and that was enough to drop the visitors for 97.

The Maesteg faithful being left to console themselves with whatever of Chico's vision now remains in the Llynfi Valley as relegation is now their likely reality.

For last Saturday's fixture, Cowbridge was a very pleasant and orthodox place to be. This week the first XI travel to the peculiar ground at Briton Ferry Steel.

Cricket is always fun at this long but very narrow home of cricket and Cowbridge will complete their away fixtures there for 2016 there next Saturday.

JRB

Old Hall Bridge Club

RESULTS for our club night on Wednesday, August 10:

1st Sara Bartlett & James Mangles 59.24%; 2nd Stan Harding & June Greaves 55.43%; 3rd Kathleen Ferguson & Dennis Smith 52.6%.

The club meets on Wednesday evenings at 7pm at Annex 5, Old Hall, Cowbridge. Visitors welcome, any queries please call Helen Barrie on 01446 774148.

JM

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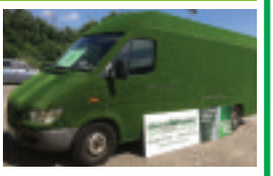

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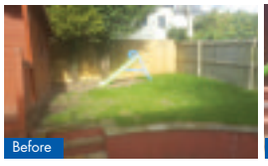

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Second XI's promotion hopes dimmed after loss

COWBRIDGE second XI's visit to Maesteg Celtic last Saturday did not deliver the result expected and has quite possibly dashed all hopes of promotion.

Despite reasonable individual efforts in chasing 161 for victory, Cowbridge's batsmen were unable to put together that one significant partnership to get them over the line, resulting in a 13-run defeat.

On a beautiful sunny afternoon, Cowbridge won the toss and invited the home side to bat first.

On a good batting track, wickets were always going to be difficult to come by and the opening bowlers did a fine job in restricting the opposition to just 52 runs from the first 15 overs, mainly due to the excellent bowling performance of 13-year-old Lewis Sevenoaks, who only conceded 13 runs from his five overs.

Navid Younas and Ian Evans followed and both bowled accurately. Although Younas managed to pick up two wickets, Maesteg managed to push their total on to 101 by the 30th over.

With wickets in hand, the opposition batsmen had the freedom to play more aggressively, which they did to great effect and they amassed a further 60 runs from their final 10 overs, finishing on 160 for 3.

A run chase of four runs per over should not have been too much trouble, given the quality of Cowbridge's batting line up.

However, the early loss of Dave Gascoyne (19) shortly followed by Younas and Rafique, both for single figures, left Cowbridge in a precarious position at just 50 for 3 from 17 overs.

The reliable Jonty Webb had batted sensibly during this mini collapse and when he was joined by Jon Smart in the 20th over with the score at 58 for 4, there was still hope and some expectation that the experienced duo would see Cowbridge to victory.

Webb and Smart began to rebuild the innings and they took the score on to 120 before Webb was dismissed for 47 in the 32nd over.

With 41 runs still required from the final 8 overs, Ian Evans joined Smart and there was still a chance that Cowbridge could get over the finish line.

However the dismissal of Smart soon followed and despite the valiant efforts of Anthony Isles and Guy Parker, Cowbridge were unable to reach the target and finished on 147 for 7 from their 40 overs.

The defeat means Cowbridge second XI remain in third place in the league. With a 20-point deficit from a promotion place, promotion now, although not impossible, will be difficult, particularly as they welcome the league leaders, Briton Ferry Steel to the Athletic Ground this Saturday.

JS

A 'pleasing' week for the bowlers!

IT was a pleasing week for Cowbridge bowlers.

There were good results for the ladies and confirmation that they are the Thursday League champions for the second year running.

Also the men finished the week on a high note by defeating Llantwit at home on Saturday.

On Monday the ladies at home in Cowbridge Shield game to Porthcawl Prince on Wales club; Cowbridge won well on all three rinks.

Rink scores: Lynda Wilson, Phyllis Price, Shirley Willkinson and Sylvia Hole 28-6; Diane Purnell, Diane Lloyd, Kay Edwards and Helena Snelling 23-9; Sandra Collin, Caryl Davies, Sue Flower and Pat Holdsworth 20-15. Match score: Cowbridge 71, Prince of Wales 30.

On Tuesday the ladies were again at home in another Cowbridge Shield game. The visitors were from the Pyle and Kenfig Club.

Although Cowbridge lost on one rink the were good wins on the other two.

Rink scores: Diane Purnell, Carol Davies, May Jones and Pat Holdsworth 11-20; Janet Morton, Caryl Davies, Phyllis Price and Sylvia Hole 26-11; Mary Dowdle, Diane Radley, Daine Lloyd and Joy Woolford 17-15. Match score: Cowbridge 54, Pyle and Kenfig 46.

On Wednesday it was time for the men to flex their muscles in an away game to Dinas Powis in the Munro Cup.

We have not done well there in the past so were happy to have good wins on three of the rinks but this was offset by a big loss on the fourth rink.

On the this one, Dennis Snelling's quartet were up against a team of top quality.

Rink scores: Bryan Hole, John Collin, John Trott and Clive Pritchard 15-13; Steve Dodsworth, John Hunt, Ron Frayling and Norman Wilkinson 19-13; Terry Dunswoth, Byron Richards, Rob Lewis and Dennis Snelling 8-30. Match score: Cowbridge 59, Dinas Powis 72.

On Thursday the ladies were away to Llanwit Major, and although Cowbridge lost on all three rinks, the rink of Lynda Wilson, Joan Bradley, Phyllis Price and Shirley Wilkinson lost by just one shot, 14-15.

Other rink scores were: Corrie Bufton, Dorothy Pritchard, Sylvia Hole and Sue Flower 10-26 and Helena Snelling, May Jones, Diane Lloyd and Kay Edwards 8-23.

Prior to this match Cowbridge were top of this league; later came confirmation that other results meant that they could not be caught, hence league champions again - congratulations ladies!

On Saturday it was Llanwit Major again but this time it was a home league for the men with Cowbridge in need of a good win and points to stay away from the foot of the table.

Cowbridge won well on three of the rinks and only lost by two shots on Bob Penn's rink.

Rink scores: Terry Dunsworth, Bryan Hole, Colin Wilkinson and Norman Wilkinson 26-18; Ron Frayling Rob Lewis, Guy Morton and Roger Barwick 28-12; Clive Pritchard, Gerry Lloyd, John Trott and Bob Penn 20-22; Mansel Davey, John Jones, Peter Launder and Dennis Snelling 31-15. Match score: Cowbridge 105 (and 12 points), Llantwit Major 67 (two points).

Prior to this game last Saturday the two teams below Cowbridge were Fairoak and Beddau. They were playing each other on Saturday (result not know and the time of going to print).

This Saturday we are away to Fairoak and the following Saturday at home to Beddau. It is all to play for!

MB

Lots on the agenda at Cowbridge RFC!

THERE was a very enjoyable day at Cowbridge Rugby Club last Saturday with the players fun day proving to be a great success and all in glorious sunshine.

On August 28, there is a golf day at the Bridgend Golf Complex on the Golden Mile Drive with a start at time of 2pm.

Members and guests are very welcome for what should be a great afternoon that might involve a beer or two afterwards!

The club is trying to arrange a friendly fixture for this Saturday, please contact the club later in the week to see if we have been successful in securing one.

We are moving then towards the start of the season with first up Penygraig away on September 3.

If you would like to be involved training is on Thursdays at 7pm, you will be very welcome.

The game on September 10, when a Cowbridge XV will take on the Army Air Corps, is picking up pace.

The game will kick off early, before midday, so that all players and supporters can watch the first XV at home against Cefn Coed or the Youth, who are also at home.

The army team are now in their high-altitude camp, which is worrying the Cowbridge squad who are still trying to get together at any height!

But strict training instructions have been issued and so the team will be ready for anything short of physical contact, according to a spokesman.

Please come and lend your support for these brave men – and for the army too!

RV/RK

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